

KEESLER NEWS

Keesler Air Force Base
Biloxi, Mississippi

Vol. 65, No. 22
Thursday, June 2, 2005

The First Command ... recruiting, training and educating professional, expeditionary-minded Airmen to sustain the combat capability of America's Air Force



Dragons deployed
— 253

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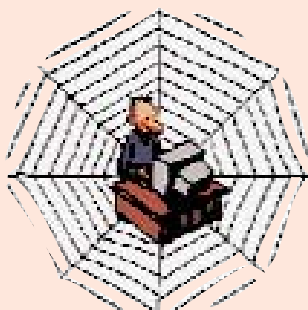
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Keesler News on Web:
<http://www.keesler.af.mil>

2005 hurricane season

Another above average year predicted

By Airman 1st Class Sarah Stegman

Keesler News staff

It's that time of year again — beachgoers searching for fun in the sun, outdoor barbecues, summer vacation and hurricanes.

Wednesday marked the beginning of June and the first day of the 2005 hurricane season.

Next week, Keesler begins an exercise to test the base's hurricane preparation plan.

This year's forecast includes:

Tropical storms — 15. A tropical storm's signature is the distinct, circular rotation of cloud mass and sustained winds of 39-73 mph.

Hurricanes — 8. A tropical storm is upgraded to a hurricane when sustained winds reach 74 mph.

Intense hurricanes — 4. Potentially the most deadly and destructive, these are storms with sustained winds of at least 111 mph.

This forecast is the work of William Gray, professor of atmospheric science at Colorado State University, and Philip Klotzbach, his research associate.

The consistent accuracy of his forecasts for more than 20 years has established Mr. Gray as one of the most respected authorities on tropical storms in the country.

Of particular interest here is his 44-percent probability of a major hurricane striking the Gulf Coast between the Florida panhandle and Brownsville, Texas, this year. This is up 4 percent from 2004 and 14 percent above the average for the last century.

Hurricane seasons on the Mississippi Gulf Coast have been relatively storm-free since 1998 when Georges shut Keesler down for three days and inflicted \$26 million in damage on the base.

The years since 1998 have been

Please see **Hurricane**, Page 9

Some gave all, all gave some



Photo by Kemberly Groue

Tech. Sgt. Mike Haddock, 81st Security Forces Squadron, places a flag on the grave of a veteran at Biloxi's National Cemetery Saturday. Hundreds of people went and paid their respects to those who've served our country.

Keesler's contribution to local economy is \$1.5 billion in 2004

Keesler Public Affairs

Keesler's total economic impact for fiscal year 2004 has been calculated at \$1.5 billion, \$300 million less than fiscal year 2003's \$1.8 billion.

The figure was finalized May 26 as base officials completed the annual process of data assimilation and validation.

"We're proud that Keesler continues to have a significant positive impact on the Mississippi Gulf Coast, and we look forward to continuing this partnership well into the future," said Brig. Gen. William Lord, 81st Training Wing commander.

Along with employee payroll figures and construction

and purchases at \$1.3 billion, the total economic impact includes military retiree pay and the value of volunteer services as well as jobs indirectly created on the Gulf Coast.

Due to reduced U.S. Air Force recruiting last year, and pending out-sourcing of several activities on the horizon, Keesler has experienced a dip both in the number of people it employs and student population.

This is reflected in fiscal '04 employee payroll, construction and purchases, compared to fiscal '03's \$1.5 billion.

Please see **Economy**, Page 9

Make road map, action plan for fresh new beginnings

By Lt. Col. Shane Courville

81st Training Support Squadron commander

It's that time of year when changes are taking place and in some way the changes affects everyone.

Whether it's kids finishing a school year, graduating from high school or college, packing up to move to a new base, unpacking to settle in, starting a new job or even retiring, it's time to make a new start.

It's also the perfect opportunity to reflect on the past, re-focus and start fresh to do things even better.

We're here to be an active part of this life and to be a positive influence in the lives of others. Imagine life 20 or 30 years from now, and answer these questions: Who do I want to be? What do I want to contribute? How do I want to be remembered? What do I want to experience?

Answers to these questions are stepping stones for a fresh start. Let your answers be your guide to set your course and know which directions to turn when there's a fork in the road.

Starting over is especially alive in the military. At times it may seem overwhelming with a "here-we-go-again flavor," but this life must be looked upon as one of privilege.

We're given a gift over and over to be able to continually make a difference. Whether we are consciously aware of it or not, on some level we are leading ourselves and others.

We're constantly coming in contact with different people and it would be a shame to look back on this time without being able to say, "I made a positive impact throughout my military career and travels."

To contemplate making a new start, ways of being a better person top the charts.

Defining our purpose in any particular situation is the key to reality, and being real allows us to have a clear vision of ourselves, others and the world around us, which is needed to be successful.

Everyone also possesses certain strengths and weaknesses. It's vital to realize these traits in order to properly utilize what we

have. It's equally as important to recognize and harness the potential of those around us.

Not only will they shine, but using everyone's best creates an excellent outcome.

Definite goals, with a plan of action to achieve them, must also be set. In order to make a new start, have a destination with a mapped out plan on how to get there.

Everyone needs an action plan to commit to ultimately lead them to where they want to be. It's on this trip that particular attention to the roads traveled, speed driven and the shortcuts taken must be made.

Your purpose is now known and your goals and plan of attack have been made. At this point, exercise these values to make your trip successful and unforgettable:

Truth — being honest is an easy thing to do, and an honest person doesn't have anything to remember.

Respect — always treat others and your surroundings with honor.

Responsibility — understand that actions come with consequences and you must be accountable for your choices.

Integrity — always adhere to high moral standards for yourself and practice going the extra mile when offering support.

Perseverance — keep going with something despite setbacks or difficulties.

Knowledge — you are never an expert, so never stop learning. Be receptive to other's perceptions and information, and learn from mistakes.

Take this time in life to embrace the opportunity for a new start.

As you begin your next journey, the next phase of training in tech school, a two-year assignment to Keesler, or even retirement, practice values that are life-changing and inspiring to yourself and those around you.

Look upon military life as an undeniable opportunity to make a positive difference in lives.

In 20 or 30 years from now you will, without a doubt, be very proud of your answers to life's biggest questions.

ACTION LINE ... 377-4357

By Brig. Gen. William Lord

81st Training Wing commander

First, try to work concerns through the proper chain of command. When you've exhausted this recourse, turn to the commander's action line for assistance.

We welcome any suggestions to help make this a valuable and useful tool. You may call the commander's action line at 377-4357 or by writing to Commander's Action Line, 81 TRW/PA, Keesler AFB, MS 39534-2603, or e-mail 81 TRW Commander's Action Line (on-base) or commanders.line@keesler.af.mil (off-base). For a personal response, include your name, address and phone number.

Items of general interest may appear in this column.

FAM Camp restroom concerns

Comment — The restrooms at the Family Camp are still incomplete. There are exposed electrical conditions, no curtains on the women's showers. The place is in a deplorable state of cleanliness.

Response — In our haste to improve the quality of our service by renovating the FAM Camp restroom facilities, we allowed both facilities to be closed. We apologize for the inconvenience, but have completed construction of our services facilities.

Electronic key snafu

Comment — Recently, I stayed at Shaw House and had to make two trips to Tyler House, in the driving rain, to get the magnetic key reprogrammed because it wouldn't work with the electronic locks. It still didn't work. I then had to call and get a service rep to come over and manually open my door. At one point I waited over 25 minutes and my wife had to sit at the door for over 45 minutes while this took place. The personnel who helped us were very courteous and embarrassed that this had to happen.

Response — It is unfortunate you had a less than satisfactory experience during your stay at Keesler. Your experience isn't consistent with our high standard of customer service. The keyless system was installed approximately five months ago, and we are having some challenges getting everything to work correctly. We are currently working with the contractor who installed it to overcome software issues that cause the problem you experienced.

**Seat belts:
1) save lives,
2) are the law.
What's your excuse?**

SHOE-LEATHER EXPRESS

The number of people who became members of the Shoe-leather Express last month for not adhering to Keesler's speeding policy.



The policy, in accordance with Air Force Instruction 31-204 and 31-204 Keesler Supplement 1, states that a first-time offender has their base driving privileges suspended 30 days for driving more than 10 miles over the posted base housing speed limit.

KEESLER NEWS

No. 1 in Air Force,
1997, 2004.

No. 1 in AETC,
1996, 1998, 2004;

No. 2, 1991, 1997,
1999, 2001, 2003;

No. 3, 1995, 2002.

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TRAINING AND EDUCATION

Lifesaver 2005

Keesler, emergency agencies team up for medical readiness exercise

By Steve Pivnick

Keesler Medical Center
Public Affairs

Keesler, along with local and national emergency workers, recently completed a medical readiness exercise involving participants from eight states May 24-26.

The Lifesaver 2005 exercise was a joint preparedness test involving Keesler's Medical Group and agencies from the Federal Emergency Management Agency, the Mississippi Emergency Management Agency and the Mississippi National Guard.

Operations included 20 hospitals and two C-130J Hercules aircraft and their crews from Keesler.

The pilots transported the volunteer patients from the hangar at the National Guard Combat Readiness Training Center in Gulfport. The mock injured were flown to some of the 20 hospitals located on the Mississippi Gulf Coast.

According to Master Sgt. Scott Thresher, Keesler's Homeland Defense director and National Disaster Medical System and Federal Coordinating Center coordinator, the exercise went well from his standpoint.

"The local incident site at the Vancleave Recreation Sports Complex Rodeo Stadium was an overwhelming success," Sergeant Thresher said. "Local, state, tribal and federal partners worked together during the mock drill to simulate an oil refinery explosion staged there."

Sergeant Thresher said agencies used the exercise to see what they would do with patients who were immobilized.

"Both the Salvation Army and the Red Cross combined resources and were co-located, as they would be in a real world disaster to assist with feeding and hydration of all exercise participants," he



A UH-1 Flatiron crew chief from Fort Rucker, Ala., leads a litter team away from a helicopter after loading simulated victims on board at the Vancleave site. The Huey made five flights to Mobile-area hospitals, including Springhill, Providence, Mobile Infirmary, the University of South Alabama, Knollwood, USA-Mobile and USA Children and Women's.

said. "An Army Flatiron UH-1 helicopter from Fort Rucker, Ala., provided five missions to Mobile area hospitals, including Springhill, Providence, Mobile Infirmary, the University of South Alabama, Knollwood, USA Mobile, USA Children and Women's."

Sergeant Thresher noted that the Mobile County, Ala., Emergency Management Agency provided three buses to transport victims under simulated mutual aid support requested through the Mississippi EMA.

A Coast Guard helicopter from New Orleans made four flights to Garden Park and Memorial Hospitals, Gulf Coast Medical Center and Hancock Medical Center carrying simulated victims.

Sergeant Thresher said there were many Keesler per-

sonnel who performed well during the exercise.

"First Lt. Sharon Large, Tech. Sgt. Wilbert Collier and Staff Sgt. Patrick Down, all from the 81st Transportation Squadron, provided great leadership," he said. "They were instrumental in ensuring patients were assembled and moved to the appropriate hospitals and returned to Vancleave in a seamless operation."

Also, Sergeant Thresher noted Master Sgt. Leo Wood, 334th Training Squadron, was praised for supporting the Coast Guard and Army helicopters by providing landing coordinates to the various hospitals.

Sergeant Thresher said squadrons from around the U.S. played important roles.

"Personnel from the 452nd Aeromedical Evacuation Squadron at March Air Reserve Base, Calif.; the 43rd AES from Pope Air Force Base, N.C.; the Air National Guard's 156th AES from Charlotte, N.C.; 142nd AES from New Castle, Del., and the 183rd AES from Jackson, Miss., had significant roles in the May 24 flying operations," he said. "They used a new patient bar-code system tested as a wireless web-based system for patient accountability from Gulfport to Jackson."

Operations continued May 26 as patients were flown from Gulfport to Shreveport, La., Houston and Little Rock, Ark.



Senior Airman Yanet Gallo, 81st Medical Support Squadron, shows the effects of being a victim of an explosion that marked the start of the exercise at Vancleave Horse Arena.



Simulated victims aboard a 53rd Weather Reconnaissance Squadron C-130J Hercules at the Gulfport Air National Guard Combat Readiness Training Center. Eighty patients were moved on 403rd Wing C-130J aircraft.



Photos by Kemberly Groue

Lt. Col. Richard Miller, left, new commander of the 334th Training Squadron, hears Staff Sgt. Quinttallion Lewis, air traffic control instructor, explain the benefits of the air traffic control tower simulator in Cody Hall as Airman 1st Class Erin Bryant, one of her students, takes her turn at the controls. Colonel Miller, who took charge May 23, came to Keesler from Air Force Materiel Command at Wright-Patterson Air Force Base, Ohio, where he was chief for air traffic control and landing systems resources and requirements. Lt. Col. Geoffrey McClendon, who served as the Gators' leader for the past two years, becomes chief of officer recruiting at ROTC headquarters at Maxwell AFB, Ala.

Trainers get new leaders

Lt. Col. Chris Miceli, left, new 45th Airlift Squadron commander, discusses student flight training options with Maj. Matt Stephens at Lott Hall. Colonel Miceli, who took command from Lt. Col. Michael Torino May 25, is a combat pilot with 3,900 flying hours. Colonel Torino, who came to Keesler in 2003, is the Air Staff's new aircrew training program manager at the Pentagon.



TRAINING AND EDUCATION NOTES

Drill downs, parades

The 81st Training Group's drill down competitions alternate with non-prior service student parades behind the Levitow Training Support Facility.

Drill downs are 8 a.m. Friday and 7 a.m. Aug. 12 and Oct. 7. The annual championship is 8 a.m. Dec. 2.

Student parades are 7 p.m. July 28 and Nov. 17. The September parade date hasn't been scheduled.

For information on student parades, call Tech. Sgt. Charles Veillon, 377-2789. For information on drill downs, call Staff Sgt. Deanna Attaway, 377-2103.

College representative

A representative from Southwestern College Professional Studies is on hand 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Tuesday in the Sablich Center first floor main hallway to provide information about distance learning degree programs.

For more information, call 1-888-684-5335, extension 210.

Special programs

June 15 is the deadline for officers to apply for several competitive programs.

Programs include the Air Force Institute of Technology or Naval Postgraduate School master's and doctoral programs, Education With Industry, Space Lift Education and Crossover Program, Acquisition and Intelligence Experience Exchange Tour, Acquisition and Logistics Experience Exchange Tour, Space and Missile Acquisition Exchange Program, Marine Corps Expeditionary Warfare School, Information Officer Engineering Exchange and the Instructor Candidate Board.

Programs provide developmental education and cross-flow development assignments for officers in the eligible career fields.

For more information, call 2nd Lt. Hanna Chang, 377-7018.

Classes for spouses

The Air Force Aid Society is funding an education class for non-military spouses of active-duty Air Force members at Keesler through Mississippi Gulf Coast Community College.

The course, 9 a.m. to noon

Bullish on fitness



Photo by Kemberly Groue

Brig. Gen. William Lord, center, 81st Training Wing commander, joins students from the 335th Training Squadron for physical conditioning May 25 in front of Smith Manor.

Mondays and Wednesdays from July 11-Aug. 3, covers keyboard and computer screen terms, Microsoft Word I and II, EXCEL I and II, resume writing, customer service and basic office practices.

Fifteen students and four alternates are selected. Retirees, dependent children, spouses who are active-duty military members, or other branches of military service aren't eligible.

The application deadline is 4 p.m. June 23. Applications are available at the family support center, Room 112, Sablich Center, or in the transition employment opportunities public folder. Applicants bring completed forms to the family support center, with military identification card for verification.

For more information, call 377-2179.

Homosexual awareness

Homosexual awareness training is scheduled for 9

a.m. every other month in the Sablich Center auditorium.

The dates: June 23, Aug. 18, Oct. 20 and Dec. 15.

Civilian tuition aid

Keesler civilian employees are eligible for college tuition assistance.

Courses must be Air Force mission- or job-related and taken through a regionally or nationally accredited college or university.

Required forms are available at the education office, Room 224, Sablich Center.

For more information, call 377-2323.

Troops to Teachers

For general information on Troops to Teachers, visit <http://voled.doded.mil/dantes/ttt/index2.htm>.

For information on Mississippi Troops to Teachers, call Chris Carey, 1-800-MISS-TEACH.

NEWS AND FEATURES

Life Force

Regular donors vital to blood program

By Susan Griggs

Keesler News staff

May the force be with you!

No, this isn't a reference to the hot sequel dominating the screens at area theaters. Keesler Medical Center is referring to Life Force, the Armed Services Blood Program's latest campaign to increase blood donations at Keesler and military installations around the globe.

"Blood donations tend to slow during the summer months when the demand is greatest," said 2nd Lt. Chastity Howard, blood donor center element chief. "The need is always there, and we want a safe and healthy product for our active-duty members, retirees and their families."

Several organizations in area communities support civilian blood requirements, but the ASBP is the one program devoted to military blood needs.

Injured troops on the front lines depend on ASBP donations, but the demand for blood goes far beyond deployed locations.

"Donated blood supports not only Keesler Medical Center, but is shipped to military hospitals and ships around the world," Lieutenant Howard explained. "Donations can help injured troops, but can also be a lifesaving force for a child with cancer, a patient in need of a transplant, a person hurt in a car accident or a family member scheduled for surgery."

Donations made at Keesler's donor center can be processed into three lifesaving products — platelets, red cells and fresh frozen plasma. One pint of blood can help up to three patients.

"By donating blood every three months — once each season — a donor can help up to a dozen people in just one year," Lieutenant Howard pointed out.

"Blood can be needed any time on any day because of accidents, injuries and illness," she continued. "Regular donors are the backbone of our program because they help us to have blood available at all times."

If donations lag, the medical center has to purchase expensive blood products from other sources.

One consistent donor source is the 81st Training Group. Every Monday, the donor center sets up shop on the second floor of Bryan Hall so students, trainers and support staff in the Triangle have a convenient location to give blood.

Late last month, 10 Keesler medics traveled to Colorado as part of a nine-base team of more than 100 people at a five-day blood drive at the Air Force Academy.

"With 4,000 cadets and Peterson Air Force Base nearby, our goal was 2,000 pints," she reported. "We were able to collect 1,301 units."

The blood donor center is at the top of the escalator in the medical center's outpatient



Photo by Kemberly Groue
Airman Kara Torres, 334th Training Squadron, waits for Derwin Rhodes of the blood donor center to draw her blood during Monday's drive at Bryan Hall.

Donor deferrals

Most healthy adults can donate blood, but deferrals are sometimes necessary to protect donors and recipients. Some reasons for deferrals include:

Travel to Iraq or countries where malaria is endemic.

Extended stays at specific times to countries that have had mad cow disease outbreaks.

Recent piercings, brands or tattoos.

Recent immunizations.

Certain medical conditions.

Some medications.

Not feeling well.

People who can't donate can help by organizing a blood drive, asking others to donate, volunteering at blood drives, babysitting so a friend can donate or distributing information about donating.

services entrance. Hours are 7 a.m. to 4 p.m. work days and 7 a.m. to 3 p.m. on down Fridays. Hours may change to accommodate off-site blood drives.

For more information, call 377-9304.

IN THE NEWS

4 Mississippi Soldiers killed in Iraq

Four Mississippi Army National Guard Soldiers from Company C, 1st Battalion, 155th Infantry Brigade Combat Team based in Biloxi were killed May 23 when an improvised explosive device detonated near their vehicle.

They are Staff Sgt. Saburant Parker, 43, of Foxworth; Spc. Audrey Lunsford, 29, of Sardis; Spc. Bryan Barron, 26, of Biloxi; and Spc. Daniel Varnado, 23, of Saucier.

"This is a huge tragedy, not only for the families here at home, but for the other members of the 155th in Iraq," said Maj. Gen. Harold Cross, adjutant general of Mississippi.

A-76 town hall meeting

The next A-76 town hall meeting is 3 p.m. June 14 in the Sablich Center Auditorium.

Commitment to religious respect

Air Force Print News

The Air Force remains "deeply involved" in its commitment to ensure spiritual values of all people are respected throughout the Air Force, said acting Secretary of the Air Force Michael Dominguez May 24.

Air Force leaders are focused on religious-respect issues at the Air Force Academy, he said. When these issues became a matter of concern, academy leaders reported them up the chain of command, to the school's Board of Visitors and to the public.

Mr. Dominguez sent a task force to the academy to assess areas ranging from Air Force policy and guidance on the subject of religious tolerance to practices by the academy chain of command that either enhance or detract from a climate that respects the "free exercise of religion" and the "establishment clauses" of the First Amendment.

A team led by the deputy assistant secretary for equal opportunity and a former national director of the American Jewish Committee visited the academy in December to provide an initial assessment and advice to academy leaders.

Feedback resulted in mandatory training seminars for cadets, staff and faculty that address the Air Force's diversity and the need to respect the beliefs of others.

Retiree leader sought

The retiree affairs office is looking for a new director.

The current director, retired Chief Master Sgt. Lonnie Arnold, has been in the volunteer position for the past 10 years and will continue to represent a four-state area on the Air Force's retiree council.

For more information, call Gary Schafer, 377-7964.

No Keesler News July 7

By contract, the Keesler News publishes 49 issues in the calendar year.

The first of three weeks in which the base newspaper doesn't publish this year is July 4-8, the week the Independence Day federal holiday is observed.

The newspaper office is closed July 4 in observance of the holiday.

Publication resumes with the July 14 issue.

The Keesler News also doesn't publish during the weeks in which the Christmas and New Year's federal holidays occur.

Keesler telephone directories
are available online at
<https://wwwmil.keesler.af.mil>.
Click on "phone directory"
to bring up a quick reference.
For an organizational listing,
click on "listing"
then "organizational."
For more information,
call public affairs, 377-2783.

Hurricane,

from Page 1

marked by near misses and glancing blows. However, the historical record shows Keesler has taken a direct hit from a hurricane in four consecutive decades — Camille, 1969; Frederic, 1979; Elena, 1985; and Georges seven years ago.

Three significant changes have been made to the base's hurricane plan since 1998:

Beginning this year, the wait for people checking in at on-base shelters is expected to be much shorter because military identification cards now hold Keesler Form 21 information.

With a simple swipe of the card, people are accounted for,

room assignments are made and food for dormitory residents is arranged.

Military retirees are now advised to seek shelter elsewhere as the base can accommodate only active-duty members, their families and "mission-essential" civilian employees.

Base housing residents can arrange to shelter their dogs and cats here by calling 377-2222.

For a guide to preparing for the 2005 hurricane season, see Pages A1-8. Additional copies of the guide are available on a first-come, first-served basis in the Keesler News office, Room 113C, Taylor Logistics Building 4002 (Supply), 517 L. Street.

Perry Jenifer, Keesler News editor, contributed to this report.

Economy,

from Page 1

Keesler currently employs 14,500 people, including 10,600 military positions; and the base's presence has created more than 5,000 local and contract jobs.

In fiscal '03 Keesler employed 16,500 people, including 13,300 military positions.

Keesler is a major training center producing 38,000 graduates annually in more than 460 courses in technical subjects such as electronics, medical, airport management, weather forecasting and air traffic control.

"We train and support the best of the world's armed forces.

"Our exciting and diverse mission and high quality of personnel at Keesler make it the premier joint training base in the Air Force and a perfect fit with other industries on the coast," said General Lord.

In addition, 380,000 hours were volunteered by Keesler members last year to coast community projects and organizations, including Habitat for Humanity, the Salvation Army, coastal cleanups, Helping One Student To Succeed Program, Junior Achievement and the Lynn Meadows Discovery Center.

Each year, Keesler also hosts the Mississippi State Special Olympics Summer Games, accommodating more than 1,000 athletes and coaches from across the state. Thousands of Keesler volunteers serve the games in every capacity from team partners to timekeepers.

"We understand the importance of building strong community relationships in achieving our mission.

"Keesler fully supports the progress of the Gulf Coast, and we are proud to be a part of it," said General Lord.

Capt. Morshe Araujo, Keesler Public Affairs director, and 1st Lt. Charity Brandy, Keesler Public Affairs, contributed to this report.

PERSONNEL NOTES

Editor's note: This column is a service of the the Keesler News. Contributors include the Air Force Personnel Center, Randolph Air Force Base, Texas, and the 81st Mission Support Squadron's military and civilian personnel flights.

Testing change for chief promotion

Military personnel flight

Beginning this year, senior master sergeants competing for promotion to chief master sergeant take the Air Force's supervisory examination during the second week of September.

For the 05E9 cycle, the testing window is Sept. 13-16.

Testing is no longer conducted directly after Labor Day.

For more information, call 377-4361 or 7205.

Assignment listings available

Air Force Print News

RANDOLPH Air Force Base, Texas — The Enlisted Quarterly Assignment Listing for the January-March 2006 cycle overseas requirements is available.

Airmen need to work through their military personnel flights to update their preferences by Friday. Deployed Airmen can work with their personnel representative to update assignment preferences. Airmen will be notified of their selection by mid-June.

EQUAL advertises upcoming assignment requirements by Air Force specialty and rank. Airmen should review, prioritize and update their assignment preferences based on the assignment list.

Airmen can view the lists online at <https://afas.afpc.randolph.af.mil/amsweb/master.cfm> or at local MPFs.

Officer promotion orders

Air Force Personnel Center no longer transmits officer promotion orders to military personnel flights for distribution to officers due to the "Quick Win" initiative to reduce MPF workloads.

Officer promotion orders are distributed prior to the effective date of promotion, therefore the new policy doesn't affect receipt of promotion orders or the ceremony. For more information, call 377-3895, or email lashawndra.singleton@keesler.af.mil.

Iraq, Afghanistan campaign medals

Air Force Print News

WASHINGTON — Two new campaign medals announced April 7 recognize service members for their contributions in Iraq and Afghanistan.

Defense Department officials announced the Afghanistan Campaign Medal and Iraq Campaign Medal for service members who directly supported Operation Enduring Freedom between Oct. 24, 2001, and a date to be determined in the future or Operation Iraqi Freedom between March 19, 2003, and some future date.

Service members with the Global War on Terrorism Expeditionary Medal remain qualified for it and may apply for the appropriate new campaign medal as well.

Service members may receive both of the new campaign medals if they meet the requirement for both awards.

For more information, call the military personnel flight.

Mailing care packages

American Forces Press Service

WASHINGTON — The U.S. Postal Service and Military Postal Service Agency process mail for troops in Iraq and Afghanistan. A letter takes seven to 14 days and a package 14-24 days.

For more information, call 1-800-275-8777 or visit <http://www.usps.com>.

Air Force Association keeps military issues in Congress' view

By Susan Griggs

Keesler News staff

Who supports Air Force issues with Congress? Who supports the installation awards program? Who offers luncheon programs regarding a variety of force structure issues? That organization is the Air Force Association.

The AFA, an independent, nonprofit organization promotes public understanding of aerospace power and the pivotal role it plays in the security of the nation.

Keesler's John C. Stennis Chapter 332 is one of more than 230 chapters around the world.

In July, the chapter kicks off its annual membership drive. Chapter president Kirt Quist pointed out that membership provides many benefits to Keesler and its personnel.

"We sponsor several base awards," said Mr. Quist, a retired lieutenant colonel, said. "Each year we sponsor the Spirit of Keesler awards to recognize Keesler's finest personnel."

"AFA sponsors the honor graduate for all Airman Leadership School graduations, recognizes graduates of the Community College of the Air Force and present annuals awards to area high school Junior ROTC programs."

Supporting these local philanthropic endeavors requires teamwork and a vibrant local chapter.

"Our membership has dropped to about 500 this past year," Mr. Quist reported. "That may seem like a large number of members, but it's down more than 30 percent over the past two years."

"More critical than just having lots of members, we need active members — members willing to step forward and promote the values of the association," he added.

Membership in the associa-



tion is voluntary, but Mr. Quist stressed, "The AFA is the Air Force's primary voice with Congress."

"Through our legislative roundtable with Congressional leaders, we emphasize the importance of supporting the Air Force family," Mr. Quist remarked. "AFA membership provides a voice in the issues that impact the men and women of the Air Force, as well as their families."

AFA membership is open to anyone who is serving or has served in any of the military branches, as well as their spouses and their immediate family members.

"Civilians may also join as a patron — it's just a different category of membership which precludes holding an office," Mr. Quist explained. "Otherwise, the membership is the same."

Membership rates have dropped in recent months. A half-price annual membership is available to airmen basic through senior airmen for \$18.

AFA members receive monthly issues of Air Force Magazine, the association's professional journal of the Association. Members can also take advantage of other benefits such as financial services, education, career services and travel services.

Keesler's AFA chapter meets 11:30 a.m. the second Wednesday of each month at the Keesler Club.

For more information, call Mr. Quist, 374-7855, or email kirt@financialgroupusa.com.

Scam targets family members of deployed troops

By Lee Ann Mohajerin

72nd Air Base Wing Public Affairs

TINKER AIR FORCE BASE, Okla. — A recent phone message had a family convinced they received the news that all loved ones of a deployed service member dread.

The message explained their loved one was either hurt or killed in action. Fortunately, the phone call was a scam.

Unfortunately, the wife experienced several hours of unnecessary stress and worry before she found out her husband was OK.

The distress came after her father-in-law received a message at work that said, “The Army called and had an urgent message for him.”

Frantic for news, she called her hus-

band’s commander, and he said he knew right away something was not right.

“I knew this (call) might have been nothing, but it’s enough to raise questions, especially when loved ones are so far away and doing hazardous work,” said Maj. Max Dubroff, 72nd Security Forces Squadron.

“This also might have been a rude prank, similar to what happened to many Marine families at the beginning of Operation Iraqi Freedom. But it definitely was not a legitimate action that the Department of Defense would take,” he said.

Major Dubroff said several things tipped him off, the most obvious being the telephone call itself.

“The casualty notification system requires in-person notification by a

uniformed officer as soon as possible in any case of a member missing, casualty or death,” he said.

The second problem, he said, was the “Army” reference.

“Only an officer from the same service as the deployed member would notify next of kin,” Major Dubroff said.

Fortunately, the deployed Airman made a morale call to his wife a couple hours after the incident occurred, setting her mind at ease.

To help prevent other family members from being unnecessarily distressed, Major Dubroff suggested Airmen take the following steps.

Tell family members about the casualty notification team procedures so they can better recognize illegitimate information.

Give them phone numbers of first sergeants and commanders with whom they can confirm anything questionable.

Keep virtual record of emergency data information updated.

Stay in regular communication with family members.

Never call anyone with information about someone who has been hurt. Too often, the situation is not clear, and the call will do more harm than good.

“Deployments are hard enough on families without these kinds of things distressing our (families),” Major Dubroff said. “While you can’t control scam artists and pranksters, you can arm your family with information that may help them in situations like this.”



Get more for your money when buying new vehicle

By Capt. Scott Jansen

Legal office

Other than purchasing a house, an automobile is probably the most expensive item a person will buy.

Car dealers are professionals, so it's wise to be prepared before visiting a dealership.

To save thousands of dollars, select the right vehicle and avoid frustration:

Know how much you can spend, including gas and insurance, but keep the amount to yourself. The first thing a salesman is likely to ask is how much you're willing to pay. Some car dealers take that price and sell you a car worth thousands less for the price you named.

Know the blue book value and consumer reports on the vehicle. Compare the asking price with the fair market value. Free Internet sources can determine the fair price and the right car for you and your family.

Save money by settling on a price before you settle on financing. The dealer might play games with the interest rate, number of monthly payments and purchase price.

Prequalify for financing at your credit union or bank before you visit the dealer. That rate becomes the standard for negotiation. Demand a better rate from the dealer.

Don't take friends with you

who want to drive your car. Unless your friend is willing to pay for the car, he's the wrong person to test-drive with you.

Visit five dealers before you buy, and test-drive different makes and models in your price range. Often a dealer will match or beat another dealer's price.

Walk away. The best deal is offered after you walk away. Dealers know it's likely you'll never come back.

Have a diagnostic evaluation by a neutral mechanic. It's better to spend \$100 to find out the car is a lemon, than to buy the lemon and spend thousands to fix it. Avoid dealers who won't permit you to take a used vehicle to a mechanic.

Have the base legal office review the purchase contract to ensure that what you thought you were buying is what you actually bought. Some warranties and other written promises are worthless.

Shop on a full stomach. Car shopping takes time and energy. If you're hungry, you might short-change the process or lack the energy to be assertive.

Buy from the most ethical dealer. Ultimately buying a new or used car is a step of faith that the vehicle is worth the price. You'll be better off if you can trust the promises made to you.

Surgeon steps back in history with deployment to Afghanistan

By Steve Pivnick

81st Medical Group Public Affairs

For Lt. Col. (Dr.) Inez Kelleher, deployment to Afghanistan was like a step back in history.

Colonel Kelleher, who heads the 81st Surgical Operations Squadron orthopedics department, was the only Air Force medic assigned to an Army Reserve-staffed field hospital at Bagram Air Base, Afghanistan, from just before Christmas 2004 until early March of this year. She performed orthopedic surgery with the 325th Corps Area Support Hospital.

"We took care of the U.S. soldiers, American contractor employees and a lot of Afghans," she said. "I'd estimate that about 20 percent of the patients were American military, 5 percent contractors and 75 percent local Afghans and Afghan National Army."

The colonel was struck by the stark countryside.

"There was nothing there, just rocks," she recalled. "It was like a moonscape — conditions were pretty austere."

"The people had cut down all the trees to use as fuel for fires to heat their huts and for cooking. The huts had no windows and no running water. There were fire pits in the homes used for heat and cooking, and children fell in them and would suffer terrible burns."

Colonel Kelleher was impressed by the patriotism and desire for freedom displayed by the young men in the Afghan army.

"They reminded me of our Revolutionary War Minutemen," she commented. "They were just farmers from the country recruited to support their nation and fight for democracy against the Taliban. It was very refreshing to see them wanting to restore Afghanistan, to establish democracy and re-establish their nation."

Medical care throughout the country is rudimentary. According to Colonel



Courtesy photo

An Afghan father accompanied his injured son, one of the patients Colonel Kelleher treated.

Kelleher, Bagram was the country's premiere medical facility.

"They trusted us," she noted. "Families would drop off family members at the gate for us to care for."

"One family had an 18-month-old baby we treated with medicine that had to be very carefully administered," the colonel said. "The child got well and went home with the medicine after an interpreter explained to the father how it was to be administered."

"Another child got sick and the father apparently reasoned that if the medicine helped the baby, it would be good for the others," she continued. "So he gave it to the baby and two other children. I don't know if there had been a communication problem, but we learned all three children died from the medication."

Injuries among American military members were mainly caused by improvised explosive devices.

"We triaged them, cleaned their wounds and stabilized them," the colonel said. "Then they would be aerovaced out for upper echelon care at Landstuhl (Regional Medical

Center in Germany) or Walter Reed (Army Medical Center, D.C.)."

There weren't many opportunities to leave the base. Land mines were everywhere, many left over from when the Soviets occupied Afghanistan. Bagram is a former Soviet air base, and the colonel said there was a Soviet-era minefield within 30 feet of her quarters.

"In Camp Lacy (where the CASH was located), there were only 10 flushing toilets; five for men and five for women," she noted. "There was no running water — we drank bottled water. There were 'hot' showers in two areas, but in reality they ran either scalding or cold. But I'm sure it was a lot worse in other sites in Afghanistan."

"The local Afghans were very appreciative of any care we could provide," she continued. "This was especially true of the older people because they remembered what their country was before the Soviet invasion and the Taliban rule. The current generation has no knowledge of the past; the

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from Page 14

Taliban tried to destroy all remnants of the country's history.

Many of the hospital's patients were children.

"One thing that struck me was when children were brought to the hospital, a male family member almost always would remain with them. We very rarely saw a woman stay with them. In fact, I only saw two or three women during my deployment, all wearing burkhas."

One of Colonel Kelleher's most memorable cases involved a 14-year-old boy whose father, a doctor, supported the new government. The Taliban raided their home in October 2004 and shot the father and his two sons. The father was killed and one son suffered minor wounds.

The 14-year-old had a gunshot wound in the back of his thigh, and another bullet had torn through his arm. He was treated by a U.S. military general surgeon at a forward fire base who actually saved his life.

"The boy was brought to Bagram in January 2005 and we were able to fix his hip," the colonel recalled. "He was only a child and he was so happy we were taking care of him. He hardly complained and was always smiling — a very, very sweet boy."

Another case involved an 18-month-old baby who was badly burned on her lower extremities when she fell into her home's fire pit.

"The patella on her right knee was completely exposed and both feet totally charred," Colonel Kelleher said. "We had to amputate one leg above the knee and the other below. There is no such thing as home health care or rehab services. I have no idea what will become of her, but I fear she'll be lucky if she lives to see her third birthday."

Colonel Kelleher noted a number of children with terribly advanced tumors brought to Bagram for computerized tomography scans.

"This would never happen in the United States where such tumors would be diagnosed early," she said.

"I believe only one in five Afghan children live to age 5," the colonel continued. "Local warlords make money selling parts of land mines. They send entire families into the countryside to collect pieces, and many are gravely injured when mines explode. We continually had children and older people come in with limbs blown off."

This was Colonel Kelleher's second deployment. She had deployed to Diego Garcia in the Indian Ocean in 2002.

"The surgeons I worked with were very dedicated Army reservists who deployed for three months every 12 months," she pointed out. "It's becoming very difficult for them to leave their practices, but those I worked with were very, very dedicated to their mission."

She said the Army is recalling physicians in their 60s and 70s right out of retirement. She recalled a 70-year-old oral surgeon, a radiologist in his late 60s and a 60-year-old operating room nurse at Bagram.

"Here was a group of senior citizens called to active duty to support their country — very impressive," she stressed. "I was very concerned for them — there were very large rocks all around they had to walk on, and some of them had arthritis."

Colonel Kelleher commented that this deployment "was my 'last hurrah' because I separate from the Air Force in September (after 14 years of service). This was a very gratifying experience. I believe we are making a significant contribution there, giving these people some hope. But, it's time to turn over the reins to others."

Considering her second and third grandsons were born right after her return, she insisted, "I don't want to be one of those 60-year-olds tramping over rocks — a deployed grandma with a weapon."

Being prepared – crisis checklist for families

By Susan Griggs

Keesler News staff

Natural disasters, power failures, terrorist attacks ... what can a family do to be prepared?

Larry Tabor, operations plans chief for the 81st Training Wing, said a crisis checklist can help people collect items to keep on hand to meet their immediate needs in an emergency situation.

Food

Dried and canned products, such as fruit, vegetables, milk, juice, bouillon and soup.

Grains, nuts, jerky, snacks, trail mix and granola and high-energy bars.

Condiments, herbs and spices.

Instant coffee, tea and hot chocolate.

Manual can opener.

Paper plates, cups, napkins and paper towels.

Fondue pots fueled by candles or Sterno fuel can be used indoors; propane and fuel stoves or grills can only be used outdoors.

Safety

Flashlights.

Two radios — solar or wind-up and battery powered.

Extra batteries.

Fire extinguisher.

Hand tools.

Plastic sheeting, duct tape and towels to seal air gaps.

Blankets.

Survival manual.

Area map with highlighted evacuation routes.

Waterproof matches and lighter.

Candles.

Battery-operated lanterns.

Potassium iodide tablets (for radiation poisoning).

Safety suit for biological or chemical attack. The best ensemble includes Tyvek overalls with hood and booties, chemical-resistant gloves and full-face gas mask or pesticide-rated respirator with tight-fitting clear swim goggles and ear plugs. Seal open seams with duct tape.

Health

First aid kit.

Family or pet medications.

Vitamins and minerals.

Feminine hygiene supplies.

Waterless hand cleaner, pre-moistened towelettes, towels, washcloths and soap.



Online resources

<http://www.redcross.org>

<http://www.iprep.com>

<http://www.ready.gov>

<http://www.areyouprepared.com>

<http://www.preparedness.com>

<http://www.fema.gov>

Household chlorine bleach.

Supplies for babies and the elderly.

Extra medications and prescription glasses.

Car

Gas tank should be at least 3/4 full.

Road maps.

Flashlights and batteries.

First aid kit.

Cell phone or walkie-talkies.

Flares.

Jumper cables.

Blanket.

Compact tent.

Light jacket or rain gear, clothing, socks, shoes and hat.

Freezer bags, quart and gallon size.

Cash, change and credit cards.

Pocket-size survival manual.

Portable radio with extra batteries.

Personal hygiene supplies — toilet paper, feminine supplies, soap, tissues, paper towels, moist wipes, brush, comb, toothbrush, toothpaste, razor and shampoo.

Health supplies — multivitamins, energy bars, dried fruit, nuts, jerky, trail mix, dried juice, water and bleach.

Safety supplies — candle lantern, whistle, water-proof matches, lighter, large piece of aluminum foil for cooking if necessary, string, compass, clothespins and pocket knife.

Miscellaneous supplies — pen or pencil, paper, extra batteries, glasses, scissors, sunglasses, deck of cards, needle and thread, book, metal cooking pot.

Water

Store one gallon per person per day — two quarts for drinking and two quarts for cooking and cleaning.

Use clean, sterilized plastic soda bottles or water containers. Date and store in cool, dark place; rotate often.

Emergency indoor water sources include ice cubes, reservoir tank of toilet and hot water heater (with gas or electricity off, open drain at bottom of tank, turn off water intake valve and turn on a hot water faucet. Refill tank before turning gas or electricity back on.)

To disinfect water, add two or three drops of household bleach per gallon. Shake well and let it set for 30 minutes before using.

Home

Sanitation items such as a portable toilet or 5-gallon trash can with lid and plastic liners, odorless sanitation liquid or tablets and toilet paper.

Eating and cooking utensils and containers.

Needle, thread and safety pins.

Forty-gallon garbage can with lid and plastic liners.

Cash and credit card.

Entertainment items, such as books, toys, games, crayons, paper, compact disks and deck of cards.

Change of clothing and shoes.

Extra set of car and house keys.

Documents in fireproof safe or airtight plastic container, such as birth and marriage certificates, passports, insurance policies, deeds, recent tax returns, Social Security cards, driver's license, bank accounts, credit card information, stocks, bonds, immunization records and other important family information.

Pets

To shelter at home, store low-protein food to reduce stool volume, water, bowls, puppy training pads, garbage bags for refuse, bed, blanket, familiar toys and crate.

In case of evacuation, have a pet carrier or crate, identification and vaccination records, registration papers, food, water, medications, muzzle and leash.

Pet sheltering available during hurricanes

By Susan Griggs
Keesler News staff

When a hurricane targets Keesler, Blake Fitness Center morphs into the Pet Safe Haven Reception Center.

The pet shelter opened its doors for the first time last September to 110 cats and dogs when their owners evacuated to base shelters during Hurricane Ivan.

In the past, Keesler people who sought shelter on base had to make other arrangements for their pets. Now the fitness center houses cats and dogs — no reptiles or other exotic animals.

“We instituted pet sheltering to alleviate the need for family members to depart the local area with their pets in

search of pet-friendly shelters,” said Larry Tabor, operations plans chief for the 81st Training Wing.

Because of space and manpower limitations, the service is offered only for military family housing residents and mission-essential personnel who live off-base who stay in one of the base’s shelters.

Registration begins at Hurricane Condition 2, 24 hours before the forecasted arrival of 50-knot winds. Reception team members are able to register pets before the owner reports to a shelter.

Requirements to shelter animals:

They must be housed in a kennel approved by the base veterinary clinic. A carrier

one size larger than what is normally used for transportation is recommended in case an extended stay is necessary.

Consider a padlock to secure the animal inside the cage.

Fill out the pet safe haven agreement.

Bring adequate bedding, food and water for the animal for 36 hours.

The base veterinary clinic issues a Defense Department Form 2343, Veterinary Health Record, if a pet has all required vaccinations. The clinic also provides a requirements checklist that must be followed before an animal is sheltered.

Identification tags, preferably the microchip identification available from the clinic,

are recommended to provide positive identification of pets.

Pets must be retrieved no later than two hours after the “all clear” declaration.

Pets must be picked up immediately if the wing commander declares a mandatory evacuation for the base. The animal shelter is staffed for only 30 minutes after a mandatory evacuation order is announced. After this time, the facility door is left unlocked so owners can reclaim their animals.

To prepare for sheltering a pet during a hurricane, owners should:

Train pets — obedience may save their lives in an emergency and help make them welcomed guests.

Familiarize the animal with its transport kennel. Cats can be very difficult to catch when stressed or afraid.

Purchase tags, harnesses, leashes and extra collars for all pets, including cats. Muzzles may also be needed to control agitated and aggressive animals.

Gather food, water, bowls and familiar toys or blankets for the pet.

Purchase paper towels, plastic bags and spray disinfectant for animal waste cleanup.

Obtain copies of your pet’s medical and vaccination records.

Include a photograph of your pet with other requested records.

HOUSING NOTES

Editor's note: The following information is provided for residents of base housing areas by the 81st Civil Engineer and 81st Security Forces squadrons.

Self-help store — open 8:30 a.m. to 5:15 p.m. Monday-Thursday, 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. Fridays, closed Saturday and Sunday. For more information, call 377-5397.

Carbon monoxide detectors — occupants are required to report to the self-help store to sign for carbon monoxide detectors for their units, unless they already have permanently-installed detectors. One is required for single-level units and two for two-story units. These are plug-in type detectors and mounting instructions are provided on request. For more information, call 377-0668.

Garbage pick-up schedule — Monday and Thursday, East and West Falcon, Thrower and Oak Park; Tuesday and Friday, Maltby Hall, Bay Ridge, Shadowlawn, Pinehaven and Harrison Court. Composting and recyclable materials are picked up the first day of the week. For more information, call 377-5822 or 2865.

Remote assignments — retention of family housing is not automatic for sponsors who receive orders to a dependent-restricted (re-mote) location. A written request to the housing office, with orders attached, directing dependents to remain in their quarters is required. If approved, housing must be terminated within 60 days of sponsor's return from the overseas location.

Retention — under certain conditions, sponsors are permitted to retain housing at Keesler past a permanent change of station, separation or retirement date. In most cases of separation or retirement, a hardship condition must exist. A written request is required, with justification, to housing. Dependents are not permitted to remain in housing without the sponsor after the member separates or retires. A rental fee equal to the basic allowance for housing must be paid prior to the separation or retirement date.

Grounds — inspections are year-round.

Residents are responsible for maintaining their grounds out to the middle of the street, including reserved parking spaces (neighbors share taking care of open parking spaces).

Weekly yard inspections — look for various discrepancies. Mowing and edging are necessary for many yards because of the recent warm weather. Leaves must be raked and bagged. Trimming and pruning should be done. By mid-March or early April, all shrubs should be trimmed so they can be maintained during the summer months.

Carports and porches — should be neat. Although storage is limited, these areas should not be cluttered.

Yard sales — residents must use authorized signs provided by the self-help store on a first-come, first served basis. Three signs may be issued to a single household and must be signed out by the occupant or a family member with a military identification card. Signs may be kept no longer than two duty days, weekends excepted. Two magnetic arrows may be issued with each sign to direct persons to the sale. No other text is allowed on the sign. If you want to post a sign in someone else's yard, you must get their permission. Signs are to be used only for yard, carport, garage or similar sales at Keesler. Occupants are responsible for signs and pay if signs are lost or destroyed. For more information, call 377-0666.

Pets — people who have four recorded and verified pet violations receive eviction letters. Pets are prohibited in the vicinity of ceremonies, athletic events, places of public assembly and public buildings. For more information, see the base housing brochure or call 377-9465 or 3969.

Moves — Military members or their spouses are required to provide the housing office 40 days advance notice of intent to vacate, with exception of short-notice permanent change-of-station moves. Spouse must have a signed letter authorizing them to do so. A power of attorney is acceptable for any other person to give notice. The housing office then schedules first and final inspections. For more information, call 377-0668.

Trash carts — are to be returned to their enclosures promptly after emptied by the contractor.

Flags — Stars and Stripes are provided to all residents. Flying flags is optional. Those who fly flags are expected to do so properly. Although some flags other than Stars and Stripes may also be displayed, the Confederate battle flag is not one of them. For more information or to replace torn or worn flags, call housing maintenance, 374-0003.

Recreational vehicle storage — fenced and paved area is available in Thrower Park. Apply at the outdoor recreation office at the marina or call 377-0002.

Siding hangers — use of nails in new vinyl siding is prohibited. Approved hangers are available through the self-help store.

Parking — allowed in unmarked spaces on streets as long as other vehicles aren't impeded. An exception is cul-de-sacs, where on-street parking is not allowed.

Pest control — failure to make an effort to rid units of pests or seek assistance from the 81st CES may cause residents to be held liable for damages. Roach bait, mouse traps, insect spray and other pest control items are available at the self-help store. For assistance, call 377-2236.

Door keys — lost or stolen keys are replaced at residents' expense unless the circumstances were beyond their control. Those who replace keys are required to furnish a copy to the housing office and 81st CES energy management and control system desk.

Security, care — arrangements for security, care and inspection of units when residents are absent for more than seven days include written notice to the housing office and the name and phone number of the person designated to perform maintenance. For checks by security forces patrols, call 377-3040.

Sheds — no larger than 12x12 feet; metal construction, with floor and anchored; approved Air Force Form 332 on file with housing office. For more information, call 377-9465.

KEESLER NOTES

Minimal manning

The 81st Transportation Squadron's Vehicle Operations is minimally manned beginning at noon today for an official function.

For service, call 377-2430.

Heart Link cancelled

The June session of Heart Link, the information and orientation program for spouses affiliated with the Air Force for 5 years or less, is cancelled.

The next program is in August.

For more information or to register, call 377-2179.

Chapel opening

The chaplain's office has a position open for a tithes and offering accounting technician.

Resumes and references must be submitted by 4 p.m. June 9.

For more information, stop by Larcher Chapel from 7 a.m. to 5 p.m. Mondays-Thursdays, e-mail glen.crawford@keesler.af.mil or call, 377-4859.

Thrift shop closed

The Keesler Thrift Shop is closed until June 13.

During June and July, consignments are accepted on Wednesdays only.

Sod for base housing

Sod is available on a first-come, first-served basis for base housing residents, 8:30 a.m. June 14 at the self-help store.

For more information, call 377-5397.

Ice cream social

The Keesler Officers Spouses Club plans an ice cream social for members and their children, 1:30-3:30 p.m. June 14 at the indoor pavilion at marina park.

Incoming and outgoing members are recognized.

For more information, call Ashley Peebles, 435-8810.

Air show booths

Squadrons interested in having a food booth at the open house in November should send a representative to a planning meeting at 9:30 a.m. June 15 at the marina.

For more information, call 377-7002.

Operation Hero

Operation Hero, a deployment orientation activity for children and spouses of members who are deployed or will deploy, is 9 a.m. to noon June 25 at the deployment facility, Building 1917.

For more information or to register, call 377-2179.

Kids on the Move

Kids on the Move, a program for children whose families are moving to new assignments, is 6-7 p.m. July 28, Sept. 22 and Nov. 17 at the youth activities center.

The program is sponsored by the family support center and youth activities center.

To preregister, call 377-2179.

Airman's Attic

Airman's Attic, 800/802 Rodenberg Avenue in Bay Ridge housing area accepts furniture, appliances, area rugs and carpets, cutlery, dishware, maternity clothing and infant clothing.

All items must be clean, serviceable and ready for immediate use.

Airmen basic through sen-

ior are authorized to use the attic. Staff and technical sergeants can use items from the attic with an approval letter from their first sergeant.

The attic is open 3-6 p.m. Fridays.

For more information, call 257-9586. If donating large items, call 229-0562.

MPF hours

Hours for relocations, retirements and separations at the military personnel flight:

Appointments only — 8 a.m. to noon Mondays-working Fridays.

Walk-ins — noon to 4 p.m. Mondays-working Fridays.

For more information, call Senior Master Sgt. Shirley Bailey, 377-2244.

Switchboard service

The 81st Communications Squadron evaluates the quality of service provided by the base telephone switchboard.

Complaints or comments about the switchboard should be based on operator response time, type of assistance, courtesy, accuracy and speed.

Customer complaint records are available by e-mailing

thomas.favalora@keesler.af.mil or calling 377-4778.

DRMO withdrawals

All withdrawals from Defense Reutilization and Management Offices must be processed through the base chief of supply.

Organizations aren't authorized to withdraw items directly from any DRMO by using the Defense Reutilization and Management Service Web site.

For more information, call George Contas, 81st Supply Squadron, 377-2360.

Pedestrian gate hours

Vandenberg Heights — 7:45-9 a.m. and 3:15-4:15 p.m. weekdays.

Rodenberg — 7:45-9 a.m. and 3:15-4:15 p.m. weekdays.

Youth activities center — 6 a.m. to 10 p.m. daily.

Personnel and military children 10 years and older must present proper identification to enter the base. People without proper identification are directed to the visitors center at the White Avenue Gate.

For more information, call 377-2552.

SPORTS AND RECREATION

When heat and humidity hover, hazards prevail

By Susan Griggs

Keesler News staff

South Mississippi summers can render the hardiest souls "heat beat." The searing heat, coupled with blazing sunshine and oppressive humidity, can cause serious health risks while working, exercising or playing outside.

Heat injuries can range from fainting and cramps to heat exhaustion and heat stroke, which may result in brain damage or death unless treated promptly.

To monitor heat dangers, the 81st Aerospace Medicine Squadron's bioenvironmental engineering flight uses special monitoring equipment to perform wet bulb globe temperature measurements during the summer months to determine work and rest cycles.

The hand-held device is used to take a reading in direct sunlight in front of Building 0420 north of Sablich Center. On weekends, Blake Fitness Center personnel take the readings.

The WBGT index considers dry air temperature, air movement, relative humidity and radiant heating. The WBGT index must be measured when the predicted or actual outside temperature reaches 85 degrees Fahrenheit as a daily high, according to Air Education and Training Command Instruction 48-101, Prevention of Heat Stress Disorders. Keesler specifics are outlined in Supplement 1 to the instruction dated Oct. 23, 2001.

At Keesler, bioengineering technicians begin monitoring heat conditions in May and usually begin doing official readings 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. daily from May 15 through Sept. 30. Times and dates may be extended based on weather conditions.

"WBGT readings can change significantly during the day, depending on how quick the weather changes," explained Timothy Stanek, bioenvironmental engineering flight commander. "The reading can go from 80 degrees to



Photo by Kemberly Groue

David Banks, 81st AMDS, takes a WBGT reading which considers dry air temperature, air movement, relative humidity and radiant heating.

75 degrees within minutes if wind increases and clouds move in."

That information is given to the command post, which disseminates it to unit control centers across the base. Supervisors determine the type of work their staff is performing and implement the appropriate work-and-rest cycles based on the Occupational Safety and Health Administration's technical manual for heat stress that's produced by the American Conference of Governmental Industrial Hygienists.

Flags are posted outside the base fitness centers and the south side of the Levitow Training Support Facility to signal the degree of heat intensity. Colors, Fahrenheit temperature, hazard explanations and work-rest requirements are:

White flag (78 to 81.9) — Normal activity for people accustomed to climate; extremely intense physical exertion may cause heat stroke for people who aren't. No limits light and moderate work; heavy work 40 minutes, rest 20 minutes.

Heat stress, water intoxication warning signs, symptoms

(from AETC Instruction 48-101 dated Oct. 4, 2000)

Early symptoms

Dizziness, headache, dry mouth, unsteady walk, weakness and/or muscle cramps.

Actions

Remove from training, allow casualty to rest in shade and take sips of water.

If symptoms don't improve in 15 to 30 minutes, transport to medical facility. If symptoms worsen, call an ambulance.

Later signs and symptoms

Hot body with high temperature, confusion, unresponsiveness, coma, vomiting, involuntary bowel movement, convulsions and/or weak or rapid pulse.

Immediate actions

Call ambulance for immediate transport to hospital. Lay person down in shade with feet elevated until ambulance arrives. Give sips of water while waiting for ambulance. Begin active cooling if skin is hot to the touch. Undress as much as possible. Pour cool water over the person and fan.

Green flag (82 to 84.9) — Normal activity for those accustomed to the climate; people who aren't should use discretion in planning intense physical activity. No limit light work; moderate work 50 minutes, rest 10; heavy work 30 minutes, rest 30.

Yellow flag (85 to 87.9) — People accustomed to the climate should use caution in planning intense physical activity; those who aren't should curtail strenuous activities. No limit light work; moderate work 40 minutes, rest 20; heavy work 30 minutes, rest 30.

Red flag (88 to 89.9) — Those accustomed to the climate should curtail strenuous exercise and limit conditioning for periods not exceeding six hours; people who aren't should terminate all physical conditioning. No limit light work; moderate work 30 minutes, rest 30; heavy work 20 minutes, rest 40.

Black flag (90 and above) — No physical conditioning takes place and all outdoor classes involving physical exertion are canceled. Light

work 50 minutes, rest 10; moderate work 20 minutes, rest 40; heavy work 10 minutes, rest 50.

Clothing types may add to the WBGT factor. Cloth coveralls add 2, melt-blown polypropylene add 4, vapor transmitting water barrier clothing adds 6, spun-bond polyethylene garments add 7, lightweight limited-use vapor barrier garb adds 8 and heavyweight reusable vapor barrier clothing adds 11.

Stanek said that the most important safety measure during hot weather is to drink plenty of water or sports drinks a few hours before and during heavy work or exercise.

However, hourly fluid intake shouldn't exceed 1 1/2 quarts, and daily fluid intake shouldn't exceed 12 quarts. Rapid ingestion of large amounts of water may lead to hyponatremia, or acute water intoxication, a life-threatening condition that may lead to weakness, convulsions, loss of consciousness and death.

Please see **Heat**, Page 22

Derrick Cooley, 403rd Wing, posts a heat flag outside Blake Fitness Center.

Photo by Kemberly Groue



Heat,

from Page 21

if not recognized and treated promptly.

“Also, eat balanced meals, avoid products with caffeine and ensure appropriate work and rest cycles,” he said.

Stanek stressed that if a person is unsteady, weak or has muscle cramps that don’t go away with rest and fluids, he should seek medical attention immediately.

“If you notice someone who is confused, unresponsive or vomiting, get them into the shade, remove any excess clothing and call for medical assistance,” he stressed. “If he isn’t perspiring, try to help him cool off by fanning him or dabbing his face and neck with a cool cloth. However, don’t throw or pour cold water on him.”

For information about heat-related illnesses, call public health, 377-6896. For current heat conditions, go to <http://wwwmil.keesler.af.mil> and click the “flag conditions” icon at the bottom left of the screen.

For information on heat conditions, call bioenvironmental engineering, 377-6545.

Physical conditioning guidance for students

81st Training Support Squadron

Specific conditions classified as easy, moderate, and hard apply to physical conditioning activities for students at Air Education and Training Command installations.

Conditions are outlined in AETC Instruction 48-101, Prevention of Heat Stress Disorders.

Physical conditioning for the sole purpose of fitness improvement should be conducted before the onset of heat categories when possible, according to the instruction. Physical conditioning may be conducted in shorts and T-shirt under the following flag conditions:

White — no limit.

Green — 50 minutes.

Yellow — 40 minutes.

Red — 30 minutes.

Black — 20 minutes;

Keesler suspends physical readiness training for non-prior service Airmen under these conditions.

At Keesler, technical

training students accomplish a 30-minute self-paced run, considered a moderate workout, on Mondays, Tuesdays and Thursdays, according to Pat Cavanaugh, superintendent of military training for the 81st Training Group.

“We’re adjusting our run times for the summer to alleviate the need for curtailing physical readiness training due to black flag conditions,” Cavanaugh said.

Runs take place at 4:15 a.m. or 10 a.m., depending on class schedules. Workouts include brief warm-up and cool-down periods.

For some Airmen, a timed 1.5-mile run, considered a hard workout, is held on Tuesdays for progression in the 2nd Air Force phase program in place of the regular self-paced run.

Wednesdays, other training activities such as open ranks inspections take place.



Photo by Kemberly Groue

Brian Randazzo, left, and Tim Woodruff, both from the 336th Training Squadron-A team, go for the ball in the outfield during a battle with the 335th TRS B-team at one of the two Triangle softball fields May 18. The 335th TRS-A team won, 14-12.

Softball fields a big hit

By Senior Airman
Lee Smith

Keesler News staff

The 2005 intramural softball season is well underway and the biggest hit so far may be conditions of the Triangle softball fields.

According to James Grubb, sports director, significant improvements have been made over the last year to the softball fields.

"We added more dirt and clay to the infield and leveled it to make it smoother," Grubb said.

On the first day of the season, some of the players made observations concerning the field.

"The field looks great," said Joe Hudson, 81st Medical Operations Squadron softball coach. "The infield dirt is deeper than it was a year ago. It looks better overall."

Wendy Woodruff, 336th Training Squadron and base women's softball team member for the last two years, also noticed the improvements while attending a recent game.

"I remember playing on this field," she said. "It wasn't uncommon to find rocks in the outfield grass. But from what I can see, the field looks great, especially the infield. It definitely looks better now."

Another improvement being worked on is AstroTurf bat-

ter's boxes, Grubb pointed out.

"AstroTurf batter's boxes will prevent the plate area from flooding when it rains here and it will prevent batters from digging into the dirt and making holes when they step up to the plate," he said. "I think they will also improve the overall appearance of the field."

Grubb said all of the improvements were part of a vision, and he needed assistance to see it through.

"The 81st Civil Engineer Squadron did all of the work as far as the labor," he said. "They supported the leveling and grading of the infields; additional field dirt and clay; fence repair and making the water fountains operational."

Grubb explained that Charles Oldham, 81st Mission Support Group field maintenance specialist, had a lot to do with the field improvements.

"He is highly responsible for the current conditions of the field," he said. "The fields are the way they are now, thanks to him."

He also said there are more improvements on the way.

"We're looking into purchasing a new scoreboard, new foul poles, and a yellow fence protective guard for all of the fences," Grubb said.

SCORES AND MORE

Bowling

Editor's note: For more information, call Gaudé Lanes, 377-2817.

Youth bowling discount — 5-9 p.m. Thursdays. Teens bowl 4 hours for \$5.

Half price for Navy SeeBee personnel — Tuesdays.

Summer unsanctioned intramural league — meeting 1 p.m. today. League is 6 p.m. today-Aug. 25. Nine-pin no-tap, four per team, three games per night. \$7 plus shoes.

Father's Day special — June 19. Kids bowl for \$1 a game, dad bowls free with free shoe rental.

Summer leagues — registrations accepted for Monday League, Thursday morning seniors, Friday mixed, Sunday Incredibles have-a-ball and base intramurals.

Birthday parties — 2-6 p.m. Saturdays. Reservations required.

Family day — noon to 6 p.m. Sundays. Parents pay, their children bowl the same game free.

Hurricane Alley glow-in-the-dark bowling — 9 p.m. to 1 a.m. Fridays and Saturdays.

Youth special — ages 17 and younger bowl for \$1 a game anytime except during Hurricane Alley.

Non-prior service students — show your UBU card and receive a discount for open bowling and Hurricane Alley.

Play and save cards — bowl 21 games for \$25.

Bowl-a-rama — open to 4 p.m. Mondays-Saturdays bowl two hours for \$8.95. 4 p.m. to closing Mondays-Saturdays, all-day Sundays, bowl two hours, \$9.95.

Fitness

Editor's note: For more information, call Blake Fitness Center, 377-4385; Dragon Fitness Center, 377-2907, and Triangle Fitness Center, 377-3056.

Essay contest — for ages 6-17. For more information, call 377-4385.

Varsity teams — players and coaches are needed for both volleyball and softball teams. Interested members can sign up at Blake or Triangle fitness centers.

Sports physical — pediatric clinic provides physical for school-age students. Call TRICARE appointment line, 1-800-700-8603.

Blake Fitness Center

Aerobic workout tapes — available for free checkout and use in the facility. For more information, call 377-4409.

Fitness assessments — appointments only.

Dragon Fitness Center

Aerobics — variety of free classes offered to accommodate most fitness levels. For more information, call 377-4409.

Parent/child fitness room — 6-8 a.m. Mondays and working Fridays with workout equipment and play area for ages six months to seven years.

Triangle Fitness Center

Squat, dead lift, bench press wall of fame — best lifters in each weight category gets photo on the wall of fame and free T-shirt. Competitions are 5 p.m. working Fridays.

Golf

Editor's note: For more information, call Bay Breeze Golf Course, 377-3832.

Summer golf tournament — June 24. 11 a.m. registration and lunch, noon tee time. \$35 per person. Sign up at the pro shop.

Golf 101 — 5-6 p.m. Tuesday-June 9 or July 5-7, for people who have never played. Instruction on etiquette, putting, and more. \$20. Maximum 10 students.

Youth golf lessons — June 28-July 1, July 12-15 or July 19-22. Space is limited.

Non-prior service student special — \$15 for unlimited rounds each day, including green and cart fees and club rental.

Disks for disk golf — available for rent or purchase at outdoor recreation. For more information, call 377-3160.

Individual and group lessons — \$25 for 30 minutes.

Outdoor recreation

Editor's note: For more information, call 377-3160 or 3186.

Father's Day special — June 19. Free rod and reel rental for dads.

Deep seas fishing trips — 7 a.m. Sundays and down Fridays. \$40.

Dinner cruise — 4-8 p.m. June 11 or 25. \$40, including meal. Minimum 4 people, maximum 6.

June fishing tournament — weigh in the largest ground mullet and receive a \$100 savings bond.

Fishing trips to the oil rigs — pick your day and call to reserve, \$100 per person. Max six people.

Boat slip rental — boats up to 20 feet \$50 per month; 20-50 feet \$2.50 per foot. Power and water included.

Pontoon boat training — test and certification and is necessary to rent a pontoon boat.

Fishing trips to oil rigs — available by appointment only.

Softball

Editor's note: All games are at the Triangle softball field number indicated.

American League

(As of Friday)

Team	Won	Lost
81st MDOS	4	1
338th TRS-A	4	1
335th TRS-A	4	1
738th EIS	4	0
81st CES-A	4	0
81st SUPS-TRANS	2	3
81st CS	2	2
Firefighters	2	1
332nd TRS	1	4
81st OSF	1	4
336th TRS-B	1	4
CNATTU-A	0	4
81st DS	0	4

May 25 — 738th EIS 14, 336th TRS-B 4; 81st MDOS 14, 332nd

TRS 4; 335th TRS 13, 81st SUPS-TRANS 11; 338th TRS-A 19, CNATTU 10; 81st CES-A 18, 81st OSF 14.

Monday — 5:30 p.m. 81st SUPS-TRANS vs. Firefighters, Field 1; CNATTU-A vs. 332nd TRS, Field 2; 6:30 p.m. 81st MDOS vs. 738th EIS, Field 1; 81st CES-A vs. 335th TRS-A, Field 2; 7:30 p.m. 81st CS vs. 81st DS, Field 2; 8:30 p.m. 81st OSF vs. 338th TRS-A, Field 2.

Wednesday — 5:30 p.m. 738th EIS vs. 81st SUPS-TRANS, Field 1; 81st DS vs. 81st MDOS, Field 2; 6:30 p.m. Firefighters vs. CNATTU-A, Field 1; 332nd TRS vs. 81st CES-A, Field 2; 7:30 p.m. 335th TRS-A vs. 81st OSF, Field 1. 336th TRS-B vs. 81st CS, Field 1.

National League

Team	Won	Lost
336th TRS-A	5	0
335th TRS-B	5	0
81st MSS-TRW-2AF	4	1
81st MSGS-A	4	1
403rd Wing	4	1
81st MDSS	3	2
333rd TRS	2	3
81st CES-B	2	3
81st TRSS	2	3
CNATTU-B	1	4
338th TRS-B	1	4
81st TRSS	1	4
AFOSI-Legal	1	4
334th TRS	1	2
81st MSGS-B	0	5

May 26 — 336th TRS-A 19, 333rd TRS 6; 81st MSS-TRW-2nd AF 18, 338th TRS-B 6; 335th TRS-B 36, AFOSI-Legal 0; 81st CES-B 15, 81st MSGS 10; 403rd Wing 12, 334th TRS 6; 81st TRSS 16, CNATTU B 4; 81st MDSS 21, 81st MSGS 17.

Tuesday — 5:30 p.m. 81st TRSS vs. 81st MDSS, Field 1; 338th TRS-B vs. 334th TRS, Field 2; 6:30 p.m. CNATTU-B vs. 81st CES-B, Field 1; 335th TRS-B vs. 403rd Wing, Field 2; 7:30 p.m. 336th TRS-A vs. 81st MSS-TRW-2nd AF, Field 1; 81st MSGS-B vs. 333rd TRS, Field 2; 7:30 p.m. 336th TRS-A vs. 81st MSS-TRW-2AF, Field 1; 81st MSGS vs. 333rd TRS, Field 2.

Volleyball

All games are at the Blake Fitness Center.

Monday — 6 p.m. 334th TRS vs. 336th TRS; 7 p.m. 738th EIS vs. 335th TRS; 8 p.m. 333rd TRS vs. 81st MDOS.

Wednesday — 6 p.m. 333rd TRS vs. 335th TRS; 7 p.m. 334th TRS vs. 738th EIS; 8 p.m. 338th TRS vs. 81st MDOS.

Youth activities center

Youth sports program — for information on registrations for upcoming programs, call 377-4116.

Instructional classes — karate, ages 5 and older; gymnastics, ages 3 and older. For more information, call 377-4116.

DIGEST

HONORS

Student honor roll

334th Training Squadron

Air traffic control operations training flight — Airmen Basic Matthew Brown, Patrick Clendenning, James Conner, Darren Firth, Jessie Lapin, Karl Schuler and Chad Simko; Airman Andrew Ritenour; Airmen 1st Class James Maynard, Victor Medina, Steven Mohan and Christina Price.

Command post apprentice course — Airman 1st Class Patrick Moonan; Senior Airman Randy Patrick; Staff Sgt. Brian Stude; Tech. Sgts. Benjamin Foot, Anthony Manfre and Lisa Velasco; Master Sgt. Daniel Sunderlin.

335th TRS

Personnel apprentice course — Airman Basic Kyla Aquino; Senior Airman Crystal Sims; Staff Sgt. Kimberly Gandy; Tech. Sgt. Tiffiney Kellum.

Weather training flight — Airmen Basic Jere Gossert and Christopher Guzy; Marine Pvt. Adam Keith; Airman Annabell Rigg; Navy Airman Apprentice Joseph Hecker; Airman 1st Class Matthew Strand; Navy Airman Natasha Meeks; Tech. Sgts Joseph Dailey and David Humphreys; Master Sgts. Laszlo Balazs, Paul Higgins and David White.

338th TRS

Ground radio flight — Airmen Basic Kenneth Black, Marc Coleman, Jeremy Gephart, Ted Lee, Andrew Nichols, David Storm and Steven Sweeden; Airmen Brandon Allen, Donald Brewer, Bridget Carroll, Nicholas Caughron, Morgan Davis, Vincente Garcia, Kenneth Gese, Richard Gilmore, Kenneth Grose, Peter McMullen, Michael Powers, Anthony Sharpe and Christopher Worden; Airmen 1st Class Richard Boothe, Leacey Brown, Benjamin Dawley, William Finton, Rodney Frame, Stefan Gosner, Dustin Heideman, Dwight Hickson, Thomas Hoffpauir, Andrew Jacobs, Seth Johnson, Tyler Johnson, Robert Kieth, Bradley Luu, Joshua McGoron, Matthew Morgan, Jason Perry, Tracey Porter, Marrick Reed, James Regan, Charles Rodriguez, Donathan Rose, Patrick Rowland, Robert Sandbothe Jr., Bruce Scheel, Brent Showalter, Adam Smith, Rodriquez Smith, Matthew Stonecypher, Ruth Walker, Matthew Williams and Jonathan Wolff; Senior Airmen Jason Cheramie, Ivan Loomis, Nathan Reilly, David Rivers II and William Strickland; Staff Sgts. Jon Goe, Thomas McCarthy, William Sitterle, Donald Stevens and Larry Tedders; Master Sgt. Eric Currier.

Radar systems flight — Airman 1st Class Jason Jones; Senior Airman Theodore Donald; 2nd Lt. Andrej Gerjevic.

PROMOTIONS

2005 Air Force Personnel Center boards

July 6-21 — lieutenant colonel line, JAG, BASC, MSC, NC.

July 25-29 — senior noncommissioned officer supplemental.

Aug. 2-12 — blocked.

Aug. 15-26 — command screening.

Sept. 12-23 — colonel line, JAG, BASC, MSC, NC.

Sept. 26-30 — special selection.

Oct. 4-6 — blocked.

Oct. 11-21 — chief master sergeant evaluation.

Oct. 25-27 — Air National Guard colonel, second session.

Nov. 14-18 — colonel, lieutenant colonel and major MC, DC.

Dec. 5-16 — major line, CHAP, JAG, BSC, MSC.

TRICARE

Beneficiary services — active duty and dependents enroll at Keesler Medical Center, Room 4B-107, 377-9962. To enroll in TRICARE Prime, retirees and their dependents call 1-800-444-5445 or visit the TRICARE Service Center, 2130 Pass Road, Biloxi, 385-6650.

Claims services — 1-800-403-3950.

“Urgent” after hours primary care manager access — 1-877-794-4629.

Health benefits/beneficiary counseling, debt collection assistance — call Carolyn James, 377-6580, or Linda Davis, 377-6001. Ms. James is in Room 4B-106 and Ms. Davis is in Room 4B-105 in Keesler Medical Center.

Education center for women — in women’s health services at Keesler Medical Center, offers educational tools for women’s health issues. TV/VCR, interactive touch screen computer and multimedia computer connected to the Internet are available for

CHAPEL SERVICES

Islamic

Building 2003 — for international students, temporary duty and permanent party; prayer five times daily; Salaat ul-Jummah congregational prayer, noon Friday.

For more information, call 377-2520 or 0327.

Orthodox

Holy Trinity Church (Greek Orthodox) — 255 Beauvoir Road, Biloxi; Divine Liturgy, 10:30 a.m. Sunday. For more information, call 388-6138.

St. Mary’s Church (Eastern Orthodox) — 3224 D Ave., Gulfport. For more information, call 864-1568.

Jewish

Beth Israel Synagogue — 1946 Southern Avenue, Biloxi. Services 8 p.m. Fridays; an Oneg Shabbat follows each service. For more information, call 388-5574 or visit cbibiloxi@juno.com.

Latter-Day Saints

The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints — student group service, 2 p.m. Sundays, Triangle Chapel. Student family home evenings, 7 p.m. Mondays, Fishbowl. For more information, call 374-5627.

Biloxi Ward — 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Sundays, 14928 Big Ridge Road, North Biloxi. For more information, call 435-9506.

Protestant

Sunday worship

Larcher Chapel traditional service.....8:30 a.m.

Fishbowl student contemporary service.....10 a.m.

Larcher Chapel praise and worship service.....11:15 a.m.

Triangle Chapel gospel service.....11:30 a.m.

Sunday religious education

September-May.....10 a.m.

Classes held at the former chapel located at corner of H and 2nd streets. For class schedules, call 377-2520 or 4625.

Prayer service for peace — noon Wednesdays, Larcher Chapel. For more information, call 377-4861.

Roman Catholic

Sunday Mass

Medical Center Chapel.....Sacrament of Reconciliation, 8 a.m.

Medical Center Chapel8:30 a.m.

Triangle Chapel.....Sacrament of Reconciliation, 9:30 a.m.

Triangle Chapel.....10 a.m.

Weekday Masses

Medical Center Chapel11:15 a.m.

Fishbowl.....Wednesdays, 6:30 p.m.

Sunday religious education

September-May.....8:30 a.m.

Classes held at the former chapel located at corner of H and 2nd streets. For class schedules, call 377-4625.

personal viewing; videos may be viewed in the clinic or checked out for home use. Walk-ins welcome. For appointments, call 1-800-700-8603. For more information, call 377-6920 or 6921.

Keesler Medical Center clinic hours — family practice, 7 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday-Thursday, 7 a.m. to 4 p.m. Friday, 8 a.m. to noon Saturday. Urgent care, pediatric clinic hours, 7 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday-Friday.

On the Web — Keesler Medical Center’s Web site is <http://www.keesler.af.mil/81mdg>. For TRICARE information, visit <http://www.tricare.osd.mil>. For Region South information, visit the Humana Military Healthcare Services Web site, <http://www.humana-military.com>.

TRICARE Service Center — 2130 Pass Road, Biloxi, 385-6650. Hours are 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday-Friday.

CLASSES

Airman Leadership School

Class 05-E — June 9-July 18.

First Term Airmen Center

Class 05-12 — June 6-16.

Keesler NCO Academy

Class 05-5 — Monday through July 4.

Chapel

Book of Acts adult Bible study — 6:30-8 p.m. Wednesdays at the former chapel located at corner of H and 2nd streets. For more information, call David Moore, 594-0072.

Women’s Bible study — 10 a.m. to noon Wednesdays at the former chapel located at corner of H and 2nd streets. Topic is Beth Moore’s “Breaking Free.” Child care available. For more information, call Bonnie Nikolaus, 818-9412.

Keesler Medical Center

Shaving clinic — pseudofolliculitis evaluations 1-3 p.m. Wednesdays.

Allergy/immunization clinic — 7 a.m. to 4:15 p.m. Monday-Thursday and 7 a.m. to 4 p.m. working Fridays. For more information, call 377-6543.

International travel clinic — weekly appointments available; schedule at least three weeks before a planned trip. Travelers should provide a list of destinations when they book an appointment and bring their immunization record to the appointment. For appointment, call Pat Baugh, 377-6166.

McBride Library

Orientations for commanders, first sergeants and instructors — 6 p.m. Wednesday and June 15, 22 and 29.

Story time — 10 a.m. Wednesday and June 15, 22 and 27, ages 2-6.

Read club — 2 p.m. Wednesday, ages 7-12.

Vacation time — new travel guides on display; books on compact disk available for checkout.

Library services — free Internet use of internet. Copies 10 cents a page, copy machines 5 cents a page. Fax first page \$3, each additional page \$2. Local and incoming faxes, 50 cents a page.

Orientations and volunteer work — for more information, call 377-2181.

Arts and crafts center

Stained glass — one class, four sessions, noon to 3 p.m. Saturday and June 11, 18 and 25. \$65 including supplies; minimum six students.

Beading — beginners Saturday, intermediate June 11; \$25 per person per class, plus \$15-\$20 supply kit. Advanced, June 18 and 25; \$30 plus a \$15-\$20 supply kit. For class times, call 377-2821.

One-stroke beginner painting — 1-3 p.m. Saturday or June 18. \$40 including supplies.

One-stroke project class — 1-3 p.m. Saturday or June 18. \$25. One stroke beginner painting is prerequisite.

Beginners crochet — 6 p.m. Tuesday. \$10.

Free scrapbook club — 5:30 p.m. Tuesday. June subject is tags.

Ceramic pouring — 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. June 11. \$20 including supplies.

Ceramic painting — 10 a.m. June 11, cattails and dragonflies plate; \$30 including most supplies. 10 a.m. June 25, American flag plate; \$20 including most supplies.

Free brushstroke class — 5 p.m. June 14. Purchase your own greenware to attend.

Beginners cross stitch — 6 p.m. June 14. \$10.

Rubber-stamped card-making — 6 p.m. June 21. \$10.

Ceramic painting technique — sign ups are ongoing; minimum five students. For more information, call 377-2821.

Beginners framing — one class, four sessions, 5:30-7:30 p.m. Tuesday and June 14, 21 and 28.

Advanced matting — 10:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. June 17. \$20 including supplies. Beginning framing class is prerequisite.

Three-dimensional decoupage kits — 1 p.m. June 25. \$5 plus \$5-\$15 for a kit.

Beginning intarsia woodworking — 5-7 p.m. June 10 or 24. \$15 including supplies and tool use; maximum three students.

Advanced intarsia woodworking — 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. June 11 or 25. \$20 including supplies and tool use; maximum three students.

Beginners auto care — Classes are at 6 p.m. Wednesday, tune ups; June 15, brakes. \$5; minimum 5 students.

Teen ceramics — 10 a.m. to noon June 18, ages 14 and older. \$10 including supplies.

Parent and me project — 10 a.m. to noon June 18, ages 4 and older. \$10 including supplies; second child \$5.

Youth summer craft camp — 10 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

Please see **Digest**, Page 25

Digest, from Page 24

Tuesdays and Thursdays for eight weeks beginning Tuesday. Sign up weekly or for all eight weeks. \$20 week.

Woodshop special — build something for Father's Day and receive two hours of free shop use.

Auto shop — air conditioning checks available; shop closed June 19.

TRANSITIONS

Workshops, briefings

Transition assistance three-day workshop — 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday-Wednesday, July 11-13, Aug. 8-10, Sept. 12-14, Oct. 3-5, Nov. 7-9 and Dec. 5-7, Room 130, Sablich Center. To preregister or for more information, call 377-8591 or 8592 or e-mail ronald.bublik@keesler.af.mil.

Retirement and veterans briefing — 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. June 9, July 14, Aug. 11, Sept. 15, Oct. 6, Nov. 10 and Dec. 8, Room 130, Sablich Center. To preregister or for more information, call 377-8591 or 8592.

PALACE Chase information briefings — 10 a.m. first and third Tuesday of each month, Room 216, Sablich Center. For more information, call Master Sgt. Tony Woods, 377-7116.

Resume writing — 1-3:30 p.m. Monday, family support center. Spouses, teens and young adults learn how to show volunteer work, school activities or spotty employment in a favorable way to emphasize job skills. Minimum of five people needed for class to meet. To sign up, call 377-2179.

Employment assistance

Employment Network Center — 8 a.m. to 4:45 p.m. Monday-Thursday and 9 a.m. to 3:45 a.m. working Fridays, Room 126, Sablich Center. National and local job search information and Internet computer access for active-duty and military family members, free e-mail service, fax service and computers and laser printers to complete resumes and federal job applications. For more information, visit Room 126, Sablich Center, or call 377-8593 or 8592.

ROTC assistant professor of aerospace studies — Air Education and Training Command projects vacancies for summer 2006. For eligibility criteria and more information, call 2nd Lt. Hanna Chang, 377-7018.

Health care professionals — needed by the Air Force Reserve. Critical Air Force Specialty Codes available in Alabama, Mississippi, Louisiana and Florida units are 44M3, 44Y3, 46F3, 46P3, 47G3, and 48R3. Some may be eligible for signing bonus or loan repayment. For more information, call Tech. Sgt. George Adams, health professions recruiter, 377-8332, or e-mail george.adams@keesler.af.mil.

Barnes Air National Guard Base, Mass. — Airmen who've completed their enlistment and don't have a military service obligation may qualify for \$15,000 enlistment bonus in the Massachusetts Air National Guard. For more information, call 1-800-247-9151, DSN 698-1567 or e-mail recruiting@mabarn.ang.af.mil.

Missouri Air National Guard, Jefferson Barracks — looking for officers to fill positions as air battle managers, pilots and navigators with Air Force Specialty Codes 013B3K, 013M3, 011B3Y, 011G3, 012F3Y, 011F3B, 012F3Y, 013B3B and W011G3Y. For more information, call DSN 824-8504 or commercial 314-527-8504.

Job fair — Advanced Technology Services conducts a job fair, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Wednesday and June 9 at Sablich Center. Positions available for calibration metrology technicians, diesel test technicians, electrical manufacturing maintenance technicians, electro-mechanical repair specialists, fuel systems technicians, maintenance specialists/program engineer, mechanical manufacturing maintenance technician and motor component level repair. Participation is by appointment. If interested, e-mail ronald.bublik@keesler.af.mil and include full name, rank, home town, skills/experience/accomplishments, whether you're interested in a personal interview and date preferred, and a contact phone number. For more information, call Ron Bublik, 377-8592, or Steve McDaniel, 377-8591.

Web sites

Defense Manpower Data Center — <http://www.dmdc.osd.mil/dors> or <http://www.dmdc.osd.mil/tbb>.

Air Force Blue to Corporate Gray — <http://www.blue.togray.com>.

Air Force Federal Employment Resume and Information — <http://www.afpc.randolph.af.mil/resweb>.

Civilian job certification and licensing requirements for military personnel and veterans — <http://www.dol.gov/dol/vets>.

Department of Veterans Affairs — <http://www.vba.va.gov/efif/index.htm>; for members returning from Operations Enduring Freedom and Iraqi Freedom.

Southern Region Military and Civilian Job Fair — <http://www.mesc.state.ms.us/jobfair>.

New military spouse career center — <http://www.military.com/spouse>. Extensive job board including jobs from public and private sectors. For more information, call Vince Patton, 703-269-0154, or e-mail at vince@militaryadvantage.com.

America's Job Bank — <http://www.ajb.dni.us>.

Computer use

Government computers — commanders may authorize their use for the preparation of personal resumes by people separating or retiring from the service on an "as available" basis as long as use of the equipment for the purpose doesn't adversely affect the mission.

Transition employment opportunities public folder — go to e-mail "public folders" and click on "transition employment opportunities" for job opportunities for active duty and family members. For more information, call 377-8592 or 8593.

CLUBS AND CENTERS

Keesler Community Center

Ballroom dancing — 7-11 p.m. Saturday. \$10. Refreshments served; instructors available.

Adult and youth guitar lessons — half-hour lessons 5 p.m. Tuesdays and Thursday; \$55 month. For appointment, call 377-3308.

Weight Watchers — 5:45 p.m. Thursdays; weigh-in 5:15 p.m.

Coloring contest — pick up a coloring/activity sheet; submit entry no later than 4 p.m. June 16.

Vandenberg Community Center

Eight-ball pool tournament — 6-9:30 p.m. Mondays

Nine-ball pool tournament — 6-9:30 p.m. Tuesdays.

Karaoke — 6 p.m. Thursdays before nonworking Fridays.

CyberSport — Internet gaming 3-10 p.m. Mondays-Thursdays. For more information on weekend hours and free lessons, call 377-4519.

Late night dance and DJ — 6 p.m. to midnight Fridays and Saturdays. \$3. People with birthdays in June show their identification card and get in free third Friday of the month.

Youth activities center

Friday teen night — 6:30-10 p.m., ages 13-18. \$5. Games, activities, movies and special events. Register by Wednesday each week.

Preteen night — 5:30-9 p.m. Saturdays, ages 6-12. \$5. Games, activities, movies and special events. Register by Wednesday each week.

Free home alone course — 6-7 p.m. June 9 for ages 10 and older. Child must be accompanied by parent.

Summer camps — Air Force extreme skateboard, 8 a.m. to noon Wednesday-June 10, ages 10-16, \$15. TRAIL leadership camp, June 13-17, ages 13-17, \$15. Archery, 2-4 p.m. June 20-24, ages 8-15, \$15. Basketball, 2-4 p.m. June 27-30, ages 5-12, \$15.

Karate — 6:30-7:30 p.m. Tuesdays and Thursdays, ages 6 and older. \$30.

Gymnastics — Mondays and Wednesdays, ages 3 and older. \$30 per month. Call for times and age groups.

Training responsible adolescents in leadership/Keystone Club — 6-7 p.m. Tuesdays, ages 13-17.

Keesler Club

Editor's note: Dining is open to all ranks.

Poor man's night buffet — 5:30-8 p.m. June 16. Children's entertainment, door prizes.

Father's Day brunch — June 19 featuring prime rib. Seatings 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Reservations recommended; call 377-2719.

Lunch buffet — 10:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. Mondays-working Fridays except holidays. Specials include Mongolian barbecue Mondays, ribs Tuesday, ethnic Wednesdays, catfish the last working day of week.

Wednesday night special — 4:30 p.m. until they're gone, free wings and things for club members; \$3 nonmembers. Drink specials and progressive pot cash giveaway for members.

Enlisted Warrior Lounge

NASCAR race watch parties (all ranks) — Sunday and June 12, 19 and 26. Call for times. Food and drink specials, prize giveaways. Club members register to win trip for two to a major NASCAR event.

Summer bash (all ranks) — 5 p.m.-till June 11. Cookout, music and games.

Family summer bash (all ranks) — 5-9 p.m. June 25, Keesler Community Center. Food, games for adults and children.

Please see **Digest**, Page 26

DINING FACILITIES MENUS

Today

Lunch — baked chicken, pepper steak, pasta primavera, mashed potatoes, rice, gravy, mixed vegetables, fried okra, green beans, potato salad, fruit salad, cream of broccoli soup, chicken and wild rice soup,, chili, buffalo wings and roast beef subs.

Dinner —orange spiced chops, hush puppies, braised liver with onions, tempura fried fish, hush puppies, rissole potatoes, rice, gravy, broccoli, peas and carrots, wax beans, fruit salad, potato salad, cream of broccoli soup, chicken and wild rice soup, chili, buffalo wings and roast beef subs.

Friday

Lunch — corned beef, pineapple chicken, yankee pot roast, cornbread, potato wedges, simmered potatoes, gravy, fried cabbage, carrots, black-eyed peas, three-bean salad, clam chowder, vegetable soup, frontier chicken chili, barbecue pork and burritos.

Dinner — seafood newburg, bean and corn pie, roast turkey, cornbread, franconia potatoes, pea and pepper rice, gravy, corn on the cob, stewed tomatoes, mustard greens, pasta salad, three-bean salad, clam chowder, vegetable soup, frontier chicken chili, barbecue pork and burritos.

Saturday

Lunch — baked fish, Hungarian goulash, barbecue chicken, parsley potatoes, rice, gravy, vegetable stir fry, Boston baked beans, cream corn, fruit salad, kidney bean salad, country bean soup, chicken gumbo, chili with beans and fried chicken nuggets.

Dinner — baked chicken, Swedish meatballs, creole shrimp, baked potatoes, rice, gravy, corn, asparagus, steamed squash, fruit salad, kidney bean salad, country bean soup, chicken gumbo, chili with beans and fried chicken nuggets.

Sunday

Lunch — stir fry beef with broccolli, turkey nuggets, loin strip steak, mushroom and onion sauce, baked potatoes, rice pilaf, gravy, corn on the cob, green beans, jellied spring salad, country style tomato salad, vegetable beef soup, Italian wedding soup, frontier chicken chili and cheese pizza.

Dinner — onion fried fish, cantonese spareribs, grilled chicken breast, macaroni and cheese, egg noodles, gravy, peas, sweet potatoes, broccoli combo, jellied spring salad, country style tomato salad, vegetable beef soup, Italian wedding soup, frontier chicken chili and cheese pizza.

Monday

Lunch — chili macaroni, beef canelloni, fried chicken, cottage fries, mashed potatoes, gravy, steamed squash, glazed carrots, peas, cottage cheese salad, macaroni salad, chicken with dumplings, minestrone, chili with beans, Polish sausage and steak and cheese subs.

Dinner — pot roast, cornbread, baked stuffed fish, pork loin, oven brown potatoes, rice, gravy, cauliflower combo, succotash, green beans, macaroni salad, chicken with dumplings, minestrone, chili with beans, Polish sause and steak and cheese subs.

Tuesday

Lunch — country captain chicken, meatloaf, turkey a la king, rice, mashed potatoes, gravy, garlic toast, harvard beets, mustard greens, okra tomato gumbo, fruit cocktail salad, spinach salad, bean with ham soup, chicken noodle soup, white chicken chili, barbeque beef sloppy joes and roast beef subs..

Dinner — teriyaki chicken, veal parmesan, salmon cakes, garlic toast, filipino rice, parsley buttered potatoes, gravy, fried cabbage, succotash, mixed vegetables, fruit cocktail salad, spinach salad, bean with ham soup, chicken noodle soup, white chicken chili, barbecue beef sloppy joes and roast beef subs.

Wednesday

Lunch — Italian menu: lasagna, spaghetti with meat sauce, chicken cacciatore, noodles, baked potatoes, baked beans, green beans, simmered squash, Mexican coleslaw, frijole salad, pasta fagioli soup, chicken tortilla soup, vegetarian chili, cheese fishwich and Monte Cristo sandwich..

Dinner — barbecue ham steak, jalapeno cornbread, baked turkey and noodles, beef ball stroganoff, egg noodles, mashed potatoes, gravy, calico corn, spinach, lima beans, Mexican coleslaw, frijole salad, pasta fagioli soup, chicken tortilla soup, vegetarian chili, cheese fishwich and Monte Cristo sandwich.

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prizes. 9 p.m.-till, music for adults only.

- Hot dogs** — \$1 Mondays through Saturdays.
- Pinochle (all ranks)** — 7 p.m. Tuesdays.
- Eight- and nine-ball pool tournaments** — 6 p.m. Thursdays. Tacos three for \$2; drink specials.
- Karaoke night** — 6 p.m. to 2 a.m. Friday and June 24.
- Latino night** — June 17. 7-8 p.m. dance lessons; 8 p.m. to 2 a.m. Disk jockey; drink specials.
- Rhythm and blues night** — 9 p.m. June 10 and Saturdays.
- Urban nights** — 7 p.m. to 2 a.m. Thursdays before non-working Fridays.
- Snack and drink specials** — 5:30 p.m. Tuesdays through Fridays. Progressive pot cash giveaway Wednesdays for members.

TICKETS AND TRAVEL

- Pensacola Beach, Fla.** — June 17. \$20 including round trip transportation. Sign up and prepay no later than June 15.
- New Orleans school of cooking** — July 15. \$45 including admission, meal and transportation. Sign up by July 8.
- French Quarter ghosts and legends trip** — July 16. \$40 including admission and transportation. Sign up by July 8.

MEETINGS

Recurring

- African-American Heritage Committee** — 3:30 p.m. second Tuesday of each month, Building 4002 (Supply), Room 109. For more information, call Paulette Powell, 377-2270, or Kurt Higgins, 377-1390.
- Air Force Association, Chapter 332** — 11:30 a.m. second Wednesday of each month, Keesler Club. For more information, call or email Kirt Quist, 326-4775, kirt@financialgroupusa.com, or e-mail Paul Deitke, pdeitke@member.afa.org.
- Air Force Sergeants Association, Chapter 652** — 11 a.m. third Tuesday of each month, Keesler Club. For more information, call Master Sgt. Scott Sippel, 377-9444.
- Air Force Sergeants Association Auxiliary** — 6 p.m. third Thursday of each month. For location and more information, call Timlie Reis, 396-5872.
- Alcoholics Anonymous** — 8 p.m. Thursdays, Larcher Chapel. For more information, call 396-0823.
- Amateur radio club** — 7 p.m. second Monday of each month, second floor, Hangar 3, next to the Civil Air Patrol. For

KIRT

Keesler Integrated Resource Team members serve the community needs of military personnel and families. Member agencies support mission readiness and provide preventive or intervention services to promote mental and spiritual growth, physical health, and strong military members and their families.

KIRT members are:

- Life skills enhancement center** — 377-6216, comment line 377-6780.
- Family support center** — 377-2179.
- Family advocacy** — 377-7006.
- Family member program** — 377-3077.
- Health and wellness center** — 377-5305.
- 403rd Wing** — 377-3277.
- Chapel** — Larcher, 377-4859; Keesler Medical Center, 377-6337; Triangle, 377-2520, and Fishbowl Student Center, 377-2331.

Classes, seminars

- Passport to Parenthood/Bundles for Babies** — 6-8 p.m. today, family advocacy office, Sablich Center. For reservations, call 377-7006.
- Marital enrichment** — 3-5 p.m. Tuesday, family advocacy office, Sablich Center. For reservations, call 377-7006.
- Tobacco cessation class** — next class starts Aug. 3.
- Stress management** — 4 p.m. June 7 and 21, health and wellness center. For more information, call 377-5305.
- Healthy cooking demonstration** — noon today and June 30, health and wellness center. For more information, call 377-5305.
- Sensible weigh** — four-week class, 11 a.m. Thursdays starting June 9, health and wellness center. For more information, call 377-5305.

more information, call Staff. Sgt. Brad Godwin, 377-0341 or 875-3223, or Staff Sgt. Tony Tran, 377-1200 or 396-4547.

- American Federation of Government Employees Local 2670** — 11:30-1 p.m. second Tuesday of each month, Keesler Club. For more information, call Helene Almond, 377-6850 or 4518.
- Asian-Pacific Islander Heritage Committee** — 3 p.m. first Wednesday of each month, Magnolia Room, Keesler Community Center. For more information, call Tech. Sgt. John Dianala, 377-6154, or Larry McKean, 377-3252.
- AWANA** — 4:30-6:30 p.m. Sundays August through May at the former chapel located at corner of H and 2nd streets, for preschool through high school students. For more information, call Tasarla Shaw, 377-2520.
- Blacks in Government** — 5:15 p.m. second Thursday of each month, Building 4002 (Supply), Room 109. For more information, call Flo Clay, 377-8681.
- Boy Scout Troop 253** — 6:30 p.m. Mondays, Building 0007, Thrower Park. For more information, go to <http://www.geocities.com/biloxi253/> or call Louie Fontes, 377-1519 or 392-0646.
- Breast cancer support group** — 6 p.m. first Tuesday of each month, general surgery clinic. For more information, call 377-3454.
- Breastfeeding support group** — for more information, call Jodi Qualters, 872-9190.
- Cancer support group** — 6 p.m. second Tuesday each month, medical procedures clinic lounge. For more information, call 377-6588.
- Chapel ropes** — 6:30 p.m. Thursdays, Fishbowl Student Center. For more information, call 377-2331.
- Charismatic intercessory prayer service** — 5:15-6 p.m. Wednesdays at former chapel at corner of H and 2nd streets.
- Christian men's fellowship luncheon** — noon Tuesdays, Triangle Chapel. Bring lunch. For more information, call 377-2520.
- Christian singles** — various hours and activities at The Haven. For more information, call Willie Page, 392-1399.
- Civil Air Patrol, Col. Berta A. Edge Composite Squadron** — 6:30 p.m. Tuesdays, Room 210, Hangar 3. For more information, call Lt. Col. Linda Steel-Goodwin, 377-7152 or 436-3353, or CAP 1st Lt. Hank Rogers, commander for seniors, 435-6270.
- Company grade officers council** — 4 p.m. second Thursday of each month, Keesler Club. For more information, call Capts. Branin Klausman, 377-4045, or Jeffrey Burns, 377-0663, or visit <https://www.mil.keesler.af.mil/CGOC/index.htm>.
- Cub Scout Pack 214** — for information, call Staff Sgt. Christian Carawan, 385-9433, or Tech. Sgt. Mark Tempone, 594-2003.
- Cub Scout Pack 281** — 6:30 p.m. first, second and fourth Thursday of each month, Triangle Chapel Annex. For more information, call 1st Lt. Garon Shelton, 377-2046; Norma Cusanek, 432-3160, or Chad Taylor, 594-0877.
- Dorm council** — 7 a.m. first Wednesday of each month, Live Oak dining facility. For more information, call 377-6158 or 6680.
- Hispanic Heritage Committee** — 3:30 p.m. Thursdays, Keesler Community Center. For more information, call Maria Ochoa, 377-2211, 388-2985 or 216-0569; Carlos Puig, 385-2985, or Dee McKaig, 432-1090.
- Hispanic Employment Committee** — 4 p.m. second Wednesday of each month, family child care building, Thrower Park. For more information, call Maria Ochoa, 377-2211, 388-3426 or 216-0569.
- Keesler Officers Spouses Club** — for more information, call Michelle Harper, 872-5791; Amanda Letonoff, 432-8626, or Patty Stiles, 392-8582.
- Keesler Christian Home Educators Association** — 7-9 p.m., second Tuesday of each month, September through May, former chapel located at corner of H and 2nd streets. Open to all military home educators. For more information, call Vicky Walton, 436-6408, or e-mail chajanding@aol.com.
- Keesler Riders Association** — 3:15 p.m. first Tuesday of the month, Keesler Community Center, for motorcyclists. For more information, call Gerald Gardner, 377-2386, or Tech. Sgt. Joanna Ball, 377-2430 or 2432.
- Medical center officers spouses club** — for more information, call Stephanie Ritter, 374-2464, or Belinda Manuel, 432-7734.
- Multiples support group** — For more information, call Marty Cummings, 388-4595.
- Order of Daedalians** — 6:30 p.m. third Tuesday of each month, Daedalian Room, Keesler Club.
- Play group** — 9:30-11 a.m. Tuesdays, youth activities center, infants through 4 years. For more information, call 377-7006.
- Prayer warriors network** — 6 a.m. Mondays, Triangle Chapel.
- Protestant youth group** — 6:30-8:30 p.m. Sunday, 7-7:45 p.m. Tuesdays and 7-8 p.m. Wednesdays, Larcher Chapel. For more information, call Jeremy Allen, 377-2520.
- Retired Enlisted Association, Magnolia Chapter** — 7 p.m. second Thursday of each month, Magnolia Room, Keesler Community Center. For more information, call Larry McKean, 374-5922.
- Rising VI Association** — 3:15 p.m. third Wednesday of each month, Keesler Community Center. For more information, call

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SHUTTLE BUS SCHEDULE

6:30 a.m. to 9 p.m. weekdays

Minutes after hour	Bus stop
:00	:30 332nd TRS, Building 6955
:01	:31 338th TRS, Building 6965
:02	:32 Welch Auditorium
:04	:34 Smith Manor
:07	:37 Cody, Dolan and Thomson Hall
:08	:38 Supply
:09	:39 Shoppette
:10	:40 Shaw House
:11	:41 Main exchange
:12	:42 McBride Library
:13	:43 Medical center, Tyler House
:14	:44 Sablich Center
:15	:45 Dental clinic
:16	:46 Allee and Wolfe Halls
:17	:47 Base operations
:18	:48 Hangar 4
:19	:49 Thomson Hall

10 a.m. to 9 p.m. off-Fridays, weekends, holidays

Minutes after hour	Bus stop
:00	:30 332nd TRS, Building 6955
:02	:32 Shoppette
:04	:34 White Avenue Gate
:05	:35 Shaw House
:06	:36 Main exchange
:07	:37 Keesler Federal Credit Union
:08	:38 Medical center, Tyler House
:09	:39 Sablich Center
:10	:40 Dental clinic
:13	:43 Marina park
:14	:44 Bay Breeze Golf Course
:15	:45 Pass Road Gate
:17	:47 Welch Auditorium
:18	:48 338th TRS, Building 6965

Technical training route 5:10-5:30 a.m. weekdays

Minutes after hour	Bus stop
:10	Shaw House
:12	Muse Manor
As required	Tyer House
:14	TLQ east side 2000 block
:16	TLQ east side of Locker House
:17	332nd TRS
:18	335th TRS
:20	Welch Auditorium
:26	Thomson/Dolan/Cody Halls
:27	McClellan Hall
:28	Allee/Wolfe Halls
:30	Stennis Hall/Weather

Prior-service students lodged off-base

Allow four-minute window for times; lobby area pickup.

To Keesler via Highway 90: 5:15 a.m. and 1:25 p.m., Comfort Suites, Comfort Inn and Holiday Inn; 5:18 a.m. and 1:28 p.m., Howard Johnson Express and Best Western Swan; 5:21 a.m. and 1:35 p.m., Ramada Limited; 5:25 a.m., Edgewater Inn; 5:32 a.m. and 1:50 p.m., Biloxi Beachfront and Holiday Inn Express.

To Keesler from north of base: 5 a.m. and 1 p.m., Martinique; 5:01 a.m. and 1:04 p.m., South Palm Villas; 5:06-5:10 a.m. and 1:10-1:16 p.m., Ocean Springs Days Inn, Howard Johnson, Holiday Inn and Hampton Inn; 5:11-5:16 a.m. and 1:20-1:31 p.m., Ocean Springs Country Inn and Suites, Ramada Limited, Best Western and Comfort Inn; 5:18-5:22 a.m. and 1:41-1:47 p.m., D'Iberville Wingate Inn, Quality Inn and Travelodge; 5:25-5:35 a.m. and 1:53-1:56 p.m., D'Iberville Howard Johnson and Suburban Lodge.

Back to off-base lodging: 3:30, 4:30 and 6:15 p.m., street side of Hewes Hall for Bryan, Jones, Hewes and Garrard halls; 3:33, 4:33 and 6:18 p.m., Thomson Hall stop for Hangar 3, Thomson, Cody and Dolan halls; 3:36, 4:36 and 6:21 p.m., McClelland Hall; 3:38, 4:38 and 6:23 p.m., behind Allee Hall for 7-level building, weather building and Allee, Wolfe and Stennis halls; 3:41, 4:41 and 6:26 p.m., stop between base exchange and McBride Library.

Duty passengers have priority over "space available" riders. Schedule may be impacted by increased official operations or severe weather. Those who are physically challenged or have excess baggage, call 377-2432 for the base taxi. For more information, call 377-2430.

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Tech. Sgt. Anthony Thomas, 377-8628.

Toastmasters — noon Tuesdays, Keesler Community Center. For more information, call Capt. Ronnie Michael, 377-7395; or Michael Bayne, 872-9359.

Top III Association — 2 p.m. first working Friday of each month, Keesler Community Center. For more information, call Senior Master Sgt. Damian Orslene, 377-9464; Master Sgt. Stephen Marrotte, 377-2052; Senior Master Sgt. Marnice Anthony, 377- 5752; Master Sgt. Rudolfo Frescas, 377-2142; or Master Sgt. Richard Phillips, 377-5249.

Weight Watchers — Thursdays,

Keesler Community Center. Weigh-in starts at 5:15 p.m., meeting at 5:45. For more information, call Debbie Wilson, 831-8772, or e-mail debbie_weightwatchers@yahoo.com

MISCELLANEOUS Movies

Editor’s note: Movies are shown at Welch Auditorium. Tickets are \$3 for adults and \$1.50 for children for regular features, and \$2.50 for adults and \$1 for children for matinees. For a recorded message about current features, call 377-6627.

Today — 7 p.m., King’s Ransom (PG-13).

Friday through Saturday— listings not provided before publication deadline.

HURRICANE

Hurricanes,

from Page A1

was estimated at a mere \$3.5 million.

Frederic

Almost exactly 10 years later, Sept. 12-13, 1979, Hurricane Frederic made landfall at Mobile Bay, about an hour's drive east of Keesler, with 115-mph winds.

In Mississippi, Jackson County, the eastern-most of the three coastal counties, suffered the heaviest damage.

As in Camille, no deaths or injuries were reported on base. However, damage was more than triple Camille at \$11 million to structures and facilities, and nearly \$500,000 in on-base personal property claims.

Elena

This Labor Day 1985 storm landed at Ocean Springs with 125 mph winds, but only after tormenting the coast from Louisiana to Florida for four days and nights.

Aug. 29, it appeared Elena would make landfall somewhere near the Mississippi coast. By the following day, Keesler's civilian employees had been released, military families were in base shelters and off-base coastal residents were either sheltering, hunkering down in their boarded-up homes or fleeing inland. But that evening, the storm made an unexpected right turn and headed toward Florida.

Hurricane warnings were lifted here and life began to return to normal as Elena moved within 50 miles of the coastal Florida community of Cedar Key. There, the hurricane stopped as if to take a breather.

Sept. 1, the Sunday before the Labor Day holiday, one of



Photo by Ron Benne

Hurricane Georges lifted this boat out of the Back Bay and deposited it in a base housing area yard Sept. 28, 1998.

recent history's most unpredictable hurricanes was on the move again, but not on toward the Florida coast. No, Elena turned right again, and kept turning right until she crossed the point where her turn away from Mississippi began two days earlier — completing a loop bearing an eerie resemblance to a hangman's noose.

Then Elena straightened out, churning northwest to-

ward the Mississippi Gulf Coast and building strength as she came. It was early morning Sept. 2 when the center of the storm's 10-mile wide eye passed over Ocean Springs.

Once more, Keesler was spared any deaths or injuries. But damage soared again, to \$32.7 million — nearly 10 times Camille and about triple Frederic.

Be prepared

"Keesler has taken some

damage over the years, yes," said General Lord of the recent history of hurricanes on the coast. "When one of these storms hits, there's no escaping that.

"But no deaths and only three injuries is an outstanding record. The reason is clear — we were prepared.

"The best protection against hurricanes continues to be preparation. Take time to prepare yourself, your families.

"Keesler had a plan and it's a good one. It has served the base and our people well, not only in Camille, but in Frederic (1979), Elena (1985) and Georges (1998).

"Become familiar with our hurricane preparation plan, and if the need arises, use it," the general added. "You can't go wrong — it works."

Airman 1st Class Sarah Stegman, Keesler News staff, contributed to this report.

HURRICANE

'Tis that season, Keesler

Leader's message: Preparation is best protection

By Perry Jenifer

Keesler News editor

Newcomers not inclined to take hurricane season seriously need only to remember last year's brush with Hurricane Ivan.

Ivan was the most destructive hurricane to Keesler in last year's season.

The Category 5 hurricane battered the base with 85 mph winds overnight Sept. 15-16. Trees were uprooted, signs and light poles knocked down, shingles and siding stripped from buildings, boats washed into marshes adjacent to the Back Bay of Biloxi and virtually anything not tied down was blown around.

Within 24 hours "you made it appear as if nothing happened," said Brig. Gen. William Lord, 81st Training Wing commander, in an e-mail to unit commanders and first sergeants.

"Whether it was getting folks into safe places, here or elsewhere, feeding, taking care of health needs, emergency travel paying, bedding us all down, securing the base — you all did a wonderful job."

Also, more than 400 military members and their families from the Pensacola, Fla., area, which took a direct blow from Ivan and elderly residents of a nursing home

on the Mississippi Gulf Coast took refuge on base when their shelters failed.

General Lord was at Langley Air Force Base, Va., when Hurricane Isabel struck the Virginia coast in 2003.

"I know personally what Hurricane Isabel did in Virginia," he said. "Unfortunately, military threats aren't the only ones we face — sometimes Mother Nature attacks as well," the commander added.

Georges

The most recent hurricane to make a bull's eye of Keesler was Georges, Sept. 28, 1998. That storm wreaked havoc from one end of base to the other.

Keesler's first hurricane in 13 years packed 105-mph winds — gusting to 125 mph — 9.51 inches of rain and a surge of water from the Back Bay of Biloxi that inundated Bay Breeze Golf Course. The damage: \$26 million.

In the immediate aftermath of Georges, some facilities were unable to operate, families were forced out of base housing and three civil engineers were injured, one seriously.

Lest anyone forget, it took more than three years to complete all the necessary repairs.



Photo by Airman 1st Class Sarah Stegman

Toppled commissary sign on Larcher Boulevard bears witness to the power of Hurricane Ivan's 85 mph winds as the battered the base overnight Sept. 15-16.

Georges extended an unenviable string. He marked the fourth consecutive decade in which Keesler has felt the wrath of a hurricane, including the one considered by many to be the mother of all monster storms.

None of these were glancing blows that knock you off balance temporarily, then pass on ... out of sight and out of mind. They were head-on, death and destruction-dealing collisions.

Camille

The first — and worst — of the four most recent hurricanes to strike Keesler was Camille. Until Andrew swept

across south Florida in 1992, Camille was the yardstick by which hurricane destruction was measured. For long-time residents of the Mississippi Gulf Coast, she remains the mother of all storms.

More powerful than even Andrew, Camille came ashore Aug. 17, 1969, between Waveland and Bay St. Louis, less than 20 miles west of Keesler. Winds at landfall were in excess of 200 miles per hour.

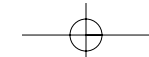
The 20-foot storm surge, or wall of water driven ashore from the Gulf of Mexico, deposited sea-going ships and barges on city streets and swept away entire buildings.

One of the latter, an apartment building in Pass Christian, was the scene of a tenants' "hurricane party." Only one of more than 20 partygoers survived. Clinging to debris, she was rescued several miles inland from her beachfront apartment.

Camille's toll along the coast was a mind-boggling 132 dead, 27 missing and 8,931 injured. Damage was in the hundreds of millions of dollars across the coast.

Keesler was more fortunate than the rest of the coast. No deaths or injuries were reported on the base, and damage

Please see **Hurricanes, A8**



Map courtesy of Gulf Publishing Co.

[illegible]

Keesler's hurricane plan – how it works

A Category 2 (sustained winds of at least 96 miles per hour) or stronger hurricane has struck Keesler in each of the last four decades — Camille (1969), Fred-eric (1979), Elena (1985), Georges (1998) and Ivan (2004). In the aftermath of those storms, the base reported no storm-related deaths and only three injuries.

The same can't be said of the rest of the Mississippi Gulf Coast. The toll from Camille alone was 132 dead, 27 missing and 8,931 injured.

Perhaps the single greatest contributing factor to the base's record is its five-step hurricane preparation plan. HURCON, an acronym for hurricane conditions, is activated the moment a hurricane or tropical storm appears in the Gulf of Mexico.

After a "hurricane watch" is issued by the National Weather Service, the crisis action team convenes in the command post. From there, bulletins are distributed to units across the base declaring specific hurricane conditions, or HURCON, and directing actions to be taken at each HURCON level.

Hurricane advisories, specific directions updates and other related information are available only through advisories and bulletins issued from the crisis action team.

The National Weather Service issues a "hurricane watch" at HURCON 4 or 3 and a "hurricane warning" at HURCON 2 or 1.

The five levels of preparation:

HURCON 5 (also referred to as Hurricane/Tropical Storm Advisory and Preparation, or TSA). As hurricanes or tropical storms appear in the Gulf of Mexico.

HURCON 4: 72 hours prior to the forecast arrival of winds of at least 50 knots (58 mph).

HURCON 3: 48 hours prior to the forecast arrival of winds of at least 50 knots.

HURCON 2: 24 hours prior to the forecast arrival of winds of at least 50 knots.

HURCON 1: 12 hours prior to forecast arrival of winds of at least 50 knots.

Preparation

Review and update your Keesler Form 21, Shelter Intention. The form is available on the Keesler home page.

Families are advised to develop disaster readiness plans. For an example, go to <http://www.fema.gov/rrr/displan.shtm>.

At HURCON 5, crisis action team implements TSA and directs commanders and/or first sergeants to review TSA checklists and take appropriate actions.

At HURCON 4, listen to latest weather bulletins and follow instructions from unit commanders.

Off-base and base housing residents should:

Brief family members on their responsibilities. Review actions to take if sheltering is necessary.

Keep radio and television on for information on status of the storm.

Check supply of food that can be eaten without cooking.

Stock flashlights, extra batteries, camp lantern, transistor radio, special prescribed medicines and food, baby food, first aid kit, insecticides, water purification tablets, fire extinguisher, tool kit and hardware, boards for windows and plastic bags to cover any broken windows.

Tie down mobile homes and disconnect propane tanks.

Secure objects in open areas.

Fill car tanks with gasoline.

Store small boats in enclosed shelters or tie them down.

At HURCON 3, dorm residents should:

Store personal items in lockers and drawers.

Move furniture to walls opposite windows.

Unplug electrical equipment and turn off lights.

Close all doors.

Secure equipment, motorcycles, trash cans, signs, etc.

Stand by for briefings by unit commanders.

At HURCON 3, plan to brace doors securely.

Have flashlights within easy reach.

Stay away from windows.

Keep in contact with duty section or squadron.

Minimize phone calls to base.

If a Category 2 or 3 hurricane threatens Keesler, on-base residents are directed to base shelters. Gather necessary items to bring to the shelter.

At HURCON 3, if a Category 4 or 5 hurricane threatens Keesler, you may be directed to evacuate. Pay particular attention to bulletins and advisories issued by base officials, and to radio and television for information and instructions.

At HURCON 2, if you reside off base, fill jugs, bottles, etc., with drinking water. Put important personal papers or valuables in waterproof strong boxes. Notify relatives of your location during storm.

At HURCON 1, those who haven't evacuated are directed to shelter.

Sheltering

Only one entrance to each shelter is open.

Each family is provided a space 10x10 feet.

People on basic allowance for subsistence provide their own food. Although those on meal cards receive meals-ready-to-eat, they should bring extra food.

Water is available for all shelterees.

Take non-perishable food you don't have to heat, baby supplies and prescription medicine for three days. Take flashlights with extra batteries, books, magazines, games, cards, blankets, pillows, manual can opener and portable radio with batteries. Take base and coast maps, as familiar landmarks may be gone and familiar roads closed when you leave shelters or return from evacuation. Take cash.

Alcoholic beverages, electrical appliances, weapons, pets and smoking aren't allowed in shelters.

Don't chain pets outside or let them run free. Provide water and food to last until you return. If you shelter pets, call ahead to reserve space and allow time to drop them and return to your shelter or evacuate. For information on sheltering cats and dogs on base, call 377-2222. Afterwards, walk pets on leashes until they become reoriented to their surroundings.

Recovery

After a hurricane passes, Keesler people who evacuated contact their units for instructions. If communication with base isn't possible, call (800) 435-9941 (Air Force Military Personnel Center).

Those who shelter on base:

Remain in shelter until officials say you may leave.

Military report to duty sections. Control centers delegate recovery operations to all units.

Do not enter damaged buildings.

Do not check for gas leaks with matches.

Do not turn utilities on until they've been checked.

Do not eat or drink anything without first checking it for damage or contamination.

Assess and record all damage.

Report building damage to 81st Civil Engineer Squadron if you're in base housing, or to your insurance company if you live off-base.

Report damaged personal property to your insurance company.

Make plans for temporary lodging until repairs are made.

Stay away from loose animals.

Emergency phone numbers — fire department, 911; chaplain, 377-2111 (after hours, 377-4330); command post, 377-4330; medical center, 377-6555 or 6556; security forces, 377-3040.

Civil Defense phone numbers — Hancock County, 467-9226. Harrison County, 865-4002 (Gulfport), 384-7800 (Biloxi), 452-2448 (Pass Christian), 863-7292 (Long Beach), Jackson County: 769-3101 or 3111 (Pascagoula), 475-7887 (Moss Point), 875-0114 (Ocean Springs).

Coast radio stations — stay tuned for information and instructions on Keesler's recovery, medical care and emergency assistance for housing, clothing, food, etc.:

AM stations — 570, WVMI, Biloxi; 1130, WQFX, Biloxi-Gulfport; 1190, WBSL, Bay St. Louis; 1240, WGCM, Gulfport, 1390, WROA, Gulfport-Biloxi; 1490, WXBD, Biloxi; 1580, WZZJ, Pascagoula.

FM stations — 90.3, PRM, Biloxi; 92.5, WXOR, Ocean Springs-Biloxi-Gulfport; 93.7, WMJY, Biloxi; 94.5, WJZD, Gulfport; 96.7, WUJM, Gulfport; 97.9, WCPR, Gulfport; 99.1, WKNN, Pascagoula-Biloxi-Gulfport; 102.3, WGCM, Gulfport; 103.1, WOSM, Ocean Springs; 105.9, WXRQ, Pascagoula-Biloxi-Gulfport; 107.1, WXYK, Gulfport-Biloxi; 107.9, WZKX, Gulfport-Biloxi.

Family assistance center — in the aftermath of a hurricane, information on programs and services for Keesler people may be consolidated in a one-stop family assistance center located in Sablich Center.

Storm names

The National Weather Service near Miami gives names to tropical disturbances with rotating winds of more than 39 mph.

Giving women's names to tropical storms was a common practice in the late 1800s. When the National Weather Service began naming these storms in 1953, it continued the tradition of using female names.

Beginning in 1978 (for Pacific storms) and 1979 (for Atlantic storms), male and female names were alternated by the National Weather Service.

Six lists of names are rotated every six years.

Noteworthy storms have their names retired from the list. These 38 names have been retired: Agnes, Alicia, Allen, Andrew, Anita, Audrey, Betsy, Beulah, Bob, Camille, Carla, Carmen, Carol, Celia, Charley, Cleo, Connie, David, Diane, Donna, Dora, Elena, Eloise, Flora, Frances, Frederic, Gilbert, Gloria, Gracie, Hazel, Hilda, Hugo, Ione, Ivan, Janet, Jeanne, Joan and Mitch.

These are the names for tropical storms in the Atlantic in 2005:

Arlene
Bret
Cindy
Dennis
Emily
Franklin
Gert
Harvey
Irene
Jose
Katrina
Lee
Maria
Nate
Ophelia
Philippe
Rita
Stan
Tammy
Vince
Wilma



Categories of storms

Category 1 — Wind speed 74-95 mph. Damage primarily to shrubbery, trees, foliage and unanchored mobile homes. Storm surge of 4-5 feet above normal.

Category 2 — Wind speed 96-110 mph. Considerable damage to shrubbery and trees, some trees down, glass broken by flying debris, major damage to exposed mobile homes, roof damage to structures. Storm surge of 6-8 feet above normal.

Category 3 — Wind speed 111-130 mph. Large trees blown down, most signs destroyed, major roof damage, window and door damage, some structural damage to homes, many mobile homes destroyed. Storm surge of 9-12 feet above normal.

Category 4 — Wind speed 131-155 mph. Many trees blown down, all signs damaged or destroyed, extensive window and door damage, complete destruction of many mobile homes. Storm surge of 13-18 feet above normal.

Category 5 — Wind speed greater than 155 mph. Very severe and extensive window and door damage. Complete failure of roof structure on most residences, small structures overturned or destroyed, and complete destruction of mobile homes. Storm surge of 18 or more feet above normal.

Wind speed conversion chart

Mph	Knots
5.....	4.3
20.....	17.4
25.....	21.7
30.....	26.1
35.....	30.4
40.....	34.7
45.....	39.1
50.....	43.2
55.....	47.8
60.....	52.1
65.....	56.4
70.....	60.8
75.....	65.1
80.....	69.5
90.....	78.0
100.....	86.0
120.....	104.0
140.....	122.0
160.....	139.0

Coming to terms with language of hurricanes

Hurricanes are tropical cyclones in which winds reach constant speeds of 74 miles per hour or more and blow in a large spiral around a relatively calm center called the eye.

A band of high-velocity winds extends outward 20 or 30 miles from the rim of the eye, and winds may gust to more than 200 miles per hour as they approach it.

Hurricane winds do their share of harm, but they cause the greatest damage when dumping water on the areas over which they move. As storms move across the coastline, they create huge waves and storm tides which may reach 25 feet or more above normal. As winds diminish, the torrential rainfall normally accompanying the hurricane strikes. Drownings are the most common fatalities associated with hurricanes.

The following terms are associated with hurricane activity:

Tropical cyclone: The general term for all rotating storms originating over tropical waters.

Tropical disturbance: A moving area of thunderstorms in the tropics that maintains its identity for 24 hours or more.

Tropical depression: Rotary circulation at surface, highest constant wind speed 38 miles per hour (33 knots).

Tropical storm: Distinct rotary circulation, constant wind speed ratings from 39 to 73 miles per hour (34 to 63 knots).

Gale warnings: Issued when winds of 39 to 54 miles an hour (34 to 47 knots) are expected.

Storm warnings: Issued when winds of 55 to 73 miles an hour (48 to 63 knots) are expected. If a hurricane is expected to strike a coastal area, gale or storm warnings will not usually precede hurricane warnings.

Hurricane watch: Issued for a coastal area when there is a threat of hurricane conditions within 24 to 36 hours.

Hurricane warning: Issued when hurricane conditions are expected in a specified coastal area in 24 hours or less. Hurricane conditions include winds of 74 miles an hour (64 knots) or more and dangerously high tides and waves. Actions for protection of life and property should begin immediately when the warning is issued.

Flash flood watch: A flash flood is possible in the area. Stay alert.

Flash flood warning: A flash flood is imminent. Take immediate action.

Tornados: Sometimes spawned by hurricanes, these violently rotating columns of air may produce severe damage and casualties. The typical path of a tornado is 50 feet wide and a few miles long, but some have cut a path much larger. If a tornado is reported in your area, a warning will be issued.

Waterspout: A tornado over water.

Typhoon: The name given to hurricanes that develop west of the international dateline.

When a tropical disturbance gets into high gear, with rotary motion and wind speeds of more than 39 miles per hour, it's considered a tropical storm and receives a name. If wind speeds reach 74 miles per hour or more, it's called a hurricane, but keeps the same name.

This supplement was prepared by Airman 1st Class Sarah Stegman, acting Keesler News editor. Contributors: 81st Medical Group, legal and disaster preparedness offices, family support center, Gulf Publishing Co., Harrison County Civil Defense, American Forces Press Service and National Weather Service.

Now's time to review personal insurance

The time to act is now. Insurance companies won't write policies if your property is in an area under a hurricane threat.

To guarantee complete coverage, inventory household goods. Photograph expensive, hard-to-replace items and antiques. Have receipts and appraisals for expensive items. Keep this in a lock box or take it along when you evacuate or shelter.

Water damage is usually covered only if wind removes part of the roof or debris breaks windows, letting water into the house. Damage caused by flooding or rising water is covered for base housing residents.

Flood, structural, wind damage

Off-base, flood insurance is available through the National Flood Insurance program. Rates vary depending upon where you live, and the type and date of construction of your house. People who live off-base should also view their policies for structural and wind damage coverage.

Off-base residents can also obtain insurance to cover debris removal, which applies only to roofing material or other debris, not trees or bushes.

Temporary repairs coverage reimburses the policy owner for necessary and reasonable repairs made to prevent further storm damage. Living expense insurance provides motel, food and transportation if you're forced from your home.

Consider replacement cost insurance, too. For your house, make certain the amount of insurance is adequate to pay the cost of building a new house.

You may submit claims for personal property lost, destroyed or damaged on base. However, you must contact your insurance company first. The government makes up the difference between your insurance and the depreciated value of the property, up to the maximum allowable for that particular category.

Military and civilians who live off base can't submit damage claims to the government. Base housing occupants can receive up to \$100,000 in claims payments. However, to ensure adequate coverage for replacement costs, base housing occupants are wise to invest in extra personal property or special coverage insurance. For about \$25 a month, you can buy \$30,000 worth of contents and liability coverage.

Comprehensive car insurance is also worth looking into. Most claims for damage processed by the base legal office after Hurricane Elena in 1985 were for automobiles hit by wind-blown roofing materials.

Boats, campers, mobile homes

Only active-duty people can make claims against the government for such damage. The maximum payable for uninsured damage or loss to a vehicle on base is \$3,000. In most cases, glass and paint damage alone are going to be above that figure.

People who store boats, trailers, recreational vehicles or campers at the base marina sign a document waiving the base's responsibility for any losses. Boats and campers in base storage areas are covered up to \$2,500 each.

For more information, call the legal office, 377-3510, or the claims office, 377-3630.



'Disaster stress' — what it is, how to cope with it

A hurricane in the Gulf of Mexico is on a collision course with the Mississippi Gulf Coast. A scenario for stress? You bet.

"Disaster stress," as mental health experts call it, may manifest itself in a variety of ways — before and after the disaster occurs:

Physical — fatigue, tension, nausea.

Emotional — anxiety, anger, helplessness, depression.

Mental — forgetfulness, easily distracted, intrusive thoughts, nightmares.

Behavioral — increased drinking, irritability, restlessness, trouble sleeping.

Social — dropping out of usual activities, and after the disaster hits, avoiding the site.

These are the faces of disaster stress. Here are some ways to deal with them:

Ask for social and emotional support from loved ones.

Give social support to others.

Don't abandon your usual social networks, i.e., church, neighborhood groups, co-workers.

Become part of a disaster survivor group.

Control drinking and pill

Children, pets feel stress, too

Children and even pets are also vulnerable to stress.

For children, it's important to take along favorite toys, blankets or something else they really love when the family evacuates or shelters. Familiar objects ease the stress of sudden moves and strange places.

Parents' state of mind and ability to handle difficult situations are also important to children. Work on yourself first, then reassure your children. Prepare them for losses and let them know that's part of life.

As you start over, assure your children it's OK to grieve at the same time you're getting on with life.

Disaster can be as traumatic for pets as for people. They're going to need comfort and reassurance when the disaster has passed. Walk pets on leashes until they become reoriented.

taking carefully. Avoid over-indulgence.

Understand you'll experience stress, but also believe it becomes less intense over time.

Try for some non-work exercise about three times a week ... like a brisk walk.

Eat nutritious food and avoid excessive caffeine, alcohol, tobacco and sugar.

Talk to someone you trust about your personal feelings. Survivors often learn to talk to and listen to each other, which helps.

Think of yourself as a survivor, not a victim. A survivor

is tough, experienced, active. A victim is passive, helpless.

Use these strategies to help yourself: positive self talk, a new perspective on a negative experience, thought stopping, humor, divide the big problem into small problems and plan how to deal with each one.

Be patient. Recovery from disaster stress takes time. If you feel you're not healing, ask for professional help.

For more information or assistance in dealing with disaster stress, call the 81st Medical Group's life skills enhancement center, 377-6216.



Map by Gulf Publishing Company

As this map shows, several roads lead from the three coastal counties — Hancock, Harrison and Jackson — toward shelter. Officials advise against seeking shelter in out-of-state coastal cities, and recommend traveling

inland to the north. They also suggest the longer people wait to evacuate, the farther they'll have to travel to find accommodations. The yellow areas are Louisiana, left, and Alabama.

Evacuating? Here are routes to safe harbors

Evacuation routes on the Mississippi Gulf Coast are unmarked. However, several roads lead from the three coastal counties — Hancock, Harrison and Jackson — toward shelter.

For Keesler people, there are two scenarios in which an evacuation may be directed:

If a Category 4 or 5 hurricane threatens the Keesler area, the base population may be directed to evacuate at HURCON 3 of the base preparedness plan.

Category 1, 2 and 3 hurricanes prompt directions to evacuate Keesler or shelter on base at HURCON 1.

Evacuation routes:

Hancock County

Mississippi 607 — Goes through the NASA preserve and could be taken to Interstate 59.

Mississippi 43 — Begins in Waveland and from which Mississippi 603 branches north of Kiln. Mississippi 603, which links up with Mississippi 53, could also be taken to I-59.

Interstate 10 — Could be taken west to I-59 north at Slidell, La., or to I-12 west to Baton Rouge, La. Officials advise against going to New Orleans to ride out a storm because that city is below sea level and highly susceptible to flooding.

To reach Keesler's Emergency Intranet from your government computer, go to <https://wwwmil.keesler.af.mil>, click on the image to enter, then click on KENET (on the left side of the page).

If you evacuate and can't reach Keesler by phone, call 1-800-435-9941.

Harrison County

U.S. 49 — Major evacuation route to the north.

Mississippi 67 — Meets U.S. 49 at Saucier. Can help evacuees avoid traffic congestion on southern end of U.S. 49.

Mississippi 15 — Heads north from the intersection of I-10 and I-110. Meets Mississippi 26, which runs east and west. Going east, Mississippi 26 cross-

es Mississippi 57, which intersects U.S. 98 north to Hattiesburg, and runs on into Lucedale. There, Mississippi 63 and 613 connect and continue north. U.S. 98 could also be taken north. Mississippi 26 west goes to Wiggins and such northbound routes as U.S. 49, Mississippi 29, and still farther west, I-59.

Jackson County

Mississippi 57 — Runs north from U.S. Highway 90 about halfway between Ocean Springs and Gautier. Crosses Mississippi 26 and intersects U.S. 98, which goes north to Hattiesburg.

Mississippi 63 — Runs north from Moss Point to Lucedale in George County. Four lanes all the way to U.S. 98 in Lucedale.

Interstate 10 — Runs out of the county to the east toward Mobile. Disaster preparedness officials advise against seeking shelter in Mobile and other coastal cities. However, highways in Alabama going north toward Montgomery, Tuscaloosa and Birmingham, such as I-65, can be reached by going to the outskirts of Mobile.